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HANA TO YUME COMICS

SLOPE MANSION NI OKAERI
WELCOME TO SLOPE MANSION

Takao Shigeru

HANA TO YUME COMICS

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雑誌43760-97

SLOPE MANSION NI OKAERI

Takao Shigeru

HAKUSENSHA

Hana to Yume COMICS

▶Summary◀

"It is said, there are other worlds than the one we live in.. One of them is the fairy world."
My parents divorced when I was very young. I didn't even remember what my father looked like. When I turned 14 years old, Mom finally let me go to Dad's place. But what I found there wasn't Dad, but a young man and a garden full of fairies, just like in Dad's paintings..

■ Serialized in Hana to Yume ■

HAKUSENSHA

● Takao Shigeru's Books

Hana to Yume Comics-
Hitogata Shibai (The Puppet Show) -vol 1-2-
Slope Mansion ni Okaeri (Welcome to Slope Mansion)

Story Summary

After Crane's parents' divorce, she lives with her mother until the summer of her fourteenth year. She then goes to visit her father in Britain. Instead of her father, a young man named Tsune and fairies meet her at a haunted mansion. Crane passes time in a rural town filled with fairy legends and gets pulled by Tsune into an... English Fantasy-Romance!

HANA TO YUME COMICS

SLOPE MANSION NI OKAERI
(WELCOME TO SLOPE MANSION)

Takao Shigeru

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This is a work of fiction. Any similarities to actual persons, groups and incidents are purely coincidental.

Welcome to Slope Mansion

I'LL TAKE SOME COWSLIP SEED PLEASE
HOW CUTE!
YOU'RE A NEW FACE WHO'S COME BY OFTEN LATELY.
SO LOVELY. DO YOU LIKE THIS FLOWER?
THE PEOPLE AT MY HOUSE LIKE IT
so
cute
HERE'S AN EXTRA.
WHY DON'T GO OUT WITH ME? ♡
Whaaa!!

I DESPISE WEAK MEN.
YOU STUPID BOY.
step step step
DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE SHE'S FROM?
THE HOUSE NEXT TO THE FOREST... THE ARTIST'S PLACE
SE-SHHHH
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF THE FAMILY WHO LIVES IN THAT HAUNTED HOUSE.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OH.
YOU'RE HOME, CRANE.

WELCOME HOME, CRANE!!

DAD WHO IS A MIX OF ENGLISH AND JAPANESE
HAS A HOME-TOWN FULL OF TALES TALES ABOUT FAIRIES
NONE TODAY.
HE'S PROBABLY IN CANTERBURY RIGHT NOW.
T'SUNE ANY NEWS FROM MY DAD?
Thank you.

QUIET DOWN!!
NO WONDER IT'S CALLED A HAUNTED HOUSE

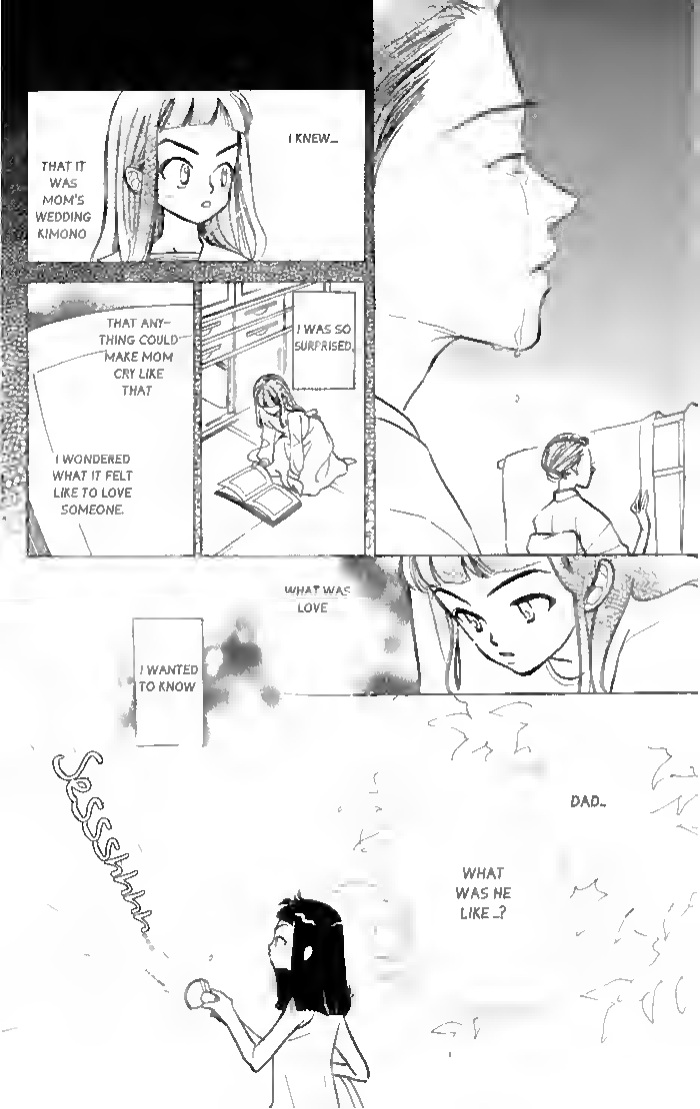
MOM NEVER SAID A WORD ABOUT DAD
UP UNTIL THEN, I HAD NEVER BEEN CURIOUS ABOUT DAD, WHOSE FACE I'D ALREADY FORGOTTEN
MOM WAS SUR-PRISED
SINCE MOM AND DAD GOT DIVORCED WHEN I WAS ONLY 3 YEARS OLD, THE TOPIC OF DAD WAS TABOO
THIS SPRING I ASKED MOM
MOM
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO MEET DAD?
HMM
MOM SAID THAT MYS-TERIOUSLY..
WHEN I WAS 10, SHE ENROLLED ME IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES
Because she hes his blood he se d
YOUR DAD ONCE SAID THAT "TSURU WILL COME TO SEE HIM ONCE SHE TURNED 14
AFTER OUR DIVORCE
*Tsuru, Crane
MY MOM IS A JUDO INSTRUC-TOR
SHE TOLD ME
HOW STRONG.
WAS IT
INTUITION
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
I HEARD THAT YOU THREW THE SON OF THE FLOWER SHOP OWNER

SINCE I'VE NEVER MET HIM, I WOULDN'T KNOW.
DO YOU WANT HIM TO BE A STRONG MAN?
Chu-Pa-Chu
.....
I WONDER IF DAD IS STRONG.
ER HE'S NOT LIKE THAT
HIS NAME IS TSUNE
HE'S ON A TRIP?!
I CAME HERE ON AN EARLY SUMMER HOLIDAY
HE'S THE ONE WHO MET ME AT THE TIME.
I'M SORRY
I TOLD HIM ABOUT IT A WHILE AGO.
HOW RUDE!
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?!
SHRUG

NICE TO MEET YOU
MY NAME IS T'SURU MIFUNE
OH T'SURU MEANS CRANE DOESN'T IT?
MY NAME IS T'SUNE
I'M A MIXED JAPANESE AND ENGLISH
I GRADUATED FROM ART SCHOOL CAME HERE TO HELP AND THEN ASKED TO BE A STUDENT HERE
LAST YEAR WHEN I WAS 18
HIS SMILE CALMED MY ANGER
THEN ...
could it be a guest?!
aaaa

Right Right
SO,
YOU'VE SEEN MY TEACHER'S PAINTINGS BEFORE?
I HAVEN'T TOLD MOM,
BUT I SECRETLY SAW A COMPILATION OF HIS WORK THAT SHE HAD HIDDEN.
OH
I WONDER WHY MOM HID IT
MAYBE
IT WAS OUT OF LOVE
MOM IS A STRONG WOMAN
EVEN IF SHE'S ALONE.
MY SON IS HURT BECAUSE OF YOUR DAUGHTER TSURU-CHAN!!
DON'T SPOIL HER JUST BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T HAVE A FATHER!!
SLAP

MOM IS ALSO WEAK
YOU CAN SLAP ME TOO
NOT HAVING A DAD IS NOT A SHAMEFUL THING
BUT YOU CANNOT HURT OTHERS.
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO GET MAD AT YOU
DID T'SURU HIT HIM BECAUSE HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT DAD?
THE TRULY STRONG CAN SILENCE OTHERS SIMPLY BY LEADING AN EXEMPLARY LIFE
UNTIL THIS YEAR...
BECAUSE OF THAT, SHE NEVER SHOWED HER VULNERABILITY TO ME.
SHE'S THE ONE WHO I CAN RELY ON AND TRUST
SHE'S STRONG YET KIND-HEARTED


THAT IT WAS MOM'S WEDDING KIMONO
I KNEW...
THAT ANY-THING COULD MAKE MOM CRY LIKE THAT
I WAS SO SURPRISED.
I WONDERED WHAT IT FELT LIKE TO LOVE SOMEONE.
WHAT WAS LOVE
I WANTED TO KNOW
Sesshhh...
DAD..
WHAT WAS HE LIKE ..?

SHINE
IT'S QUITE TIRING TAKING CARE OF THIS BIG GARDEN, ISN'T IT?
IS IT?
KYAA
I OVER-SLEPT
AH
G MORNING.
CRANE YOU'RE ALREADY WATERING THE GARDEN
I'M JUST DOING WHAT TSUNE USUALLY DOES IN THE MORNING
A...
WHOOSH
HUH?
TSUNE?
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY. LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO RAIN LATER IN THE AFTERNOON.

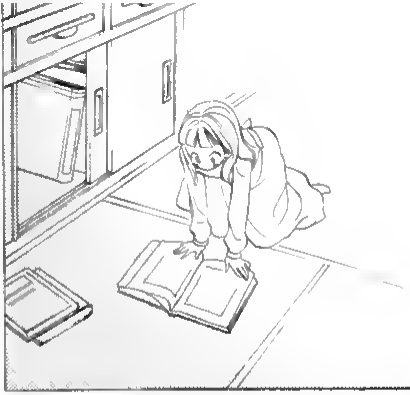
darken
IT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT
drip drip
swish swish swish
WHAT A NICE YARD
GOOD AFTER NOON
TAKING CARE OF IT ALL MUST BE A LOT OF WORK
He must be tired
THANK YOU
HE'S THE OWNER OF THE ART SUPPLY STORE
HOW COME THE POST-MAN IS SO OLD?

So strong
LET ME HELP YOU
YOU'RE STILL VERY YOUNG, BUT YOU'RE GOOD AT IT
NO NEED
IT'S MY JOB
Swish
Swish
THAT'S RIGHT SHE'S ATTACHED TO THE FAMILY.
I SAW HER IN DAD'S COMPILATION OF PAINTINGS.
SHE'S IN ONE OF THEM
SO, WHEREVER THE OWNER GOES, SHE'LL FOLLOW
SHE'S THE FAIRY WHO LIKES TO DO HOUSEWORK, ISN'T SHE?
SINCE SHE'S BEEN WITH MY TEACHER A LONG TIME SHE MUST HAVE LIVED IN A LOT OF PLACES.
AWE
SHE'S TACK THE BROWNIE
Oooo
OH
I KNOW HER

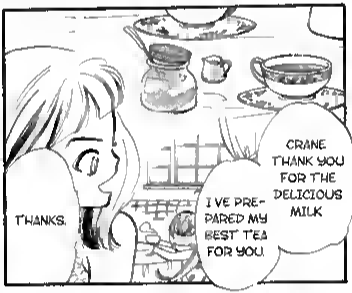
WHAT IS MY DAD LIKE?
AND MUST KNOW HIM WELL
I GUESS YOU ARE USED TO THE FAIRIES ALREADY.
OF COURSE
TRUST COMES FROM EACH INDIVIDUAL'S EXPERIENCES.
THEY HAVE MANY MEMORIES WITH FATHER...
IS THAT SO...
I KNOW. HOW ABOUT MILK?
A GLASS OF MILK AS A "THANK YOU" IS APPROPRIATE
RIGHT"
CRANE
THIS GARDEN IS FULL OF PRIMROSE,
COWSLIP, FOXGLOVE*, BLUEBERRY, AND
OAK TREES.

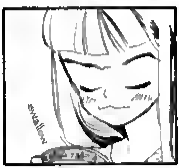
*In Latin: Digitalis

TSUNE SAID THOSE ARE THE FAIRIES' FAVORITE PLANTS.
I LOVE THIS GARDEN.
THIS GARDEN WAS CREATED BY YOUR DAD.
THEY LOOK HAPPY.
IF THEY HAVE THAT LOOK ON THEIR FACES...
I DON'T CARE HOW HARD IT IS. I'D DO ANYTHING TO TAKE CARE OF THE GARDEN JUST TO SEE THEIR HAPPY FACES.


THIS IS DAD'S WORLD, IT SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT DAD'S CHARACTER

.....
YUMMY.
OH!


CRANE THANK YOU FOR THE DELICIOUS MILK
I'VE PREPARED MY BEST TEA FOR YOU.
THANKS.


SWALLOW

Look alikes.

This time, the female characters that appear in this manga are similar.

I wonder why—. The face that I like the most is the face of actress Ogawa Tamaki. Very beautiful and sweet! I really want to have that beauty. Astonishing. I want her to smile at me—.

SO YOU NOTICED
I'D BEEN USING THE BACK DOOR BECAUSE I FELT GUILTY TOWARDS TACK
CRANE'S FACE LOOKED STRANGE
YOU DON'T LIKE IT DO YOU? BLACK TEA
SORRY
YOU FELT BAD FOR TACK WHO ALREADY MADE YOU SOME TEA
THAT'S CRANE'S KINDNESS.
YOU ARE A GOOD PERSON.

IT'S OKAY TACK LIKES YOU.
?
RATHER THAN A POKER FACE SHE PREFERS A HAPPY ONE
THUMP THUMP
.....?
THUMP THUMP
ドクドク
HUH?
MAYBE THAT'S.
BECAUSE HE HAS CONVEYED THE FEELINGS
HE HAS THROUGH HIS PAINTINGS VERY WELL.
WHEN I SAW DAD'S PAINTING, I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY PRETTY.
blush
ERR...

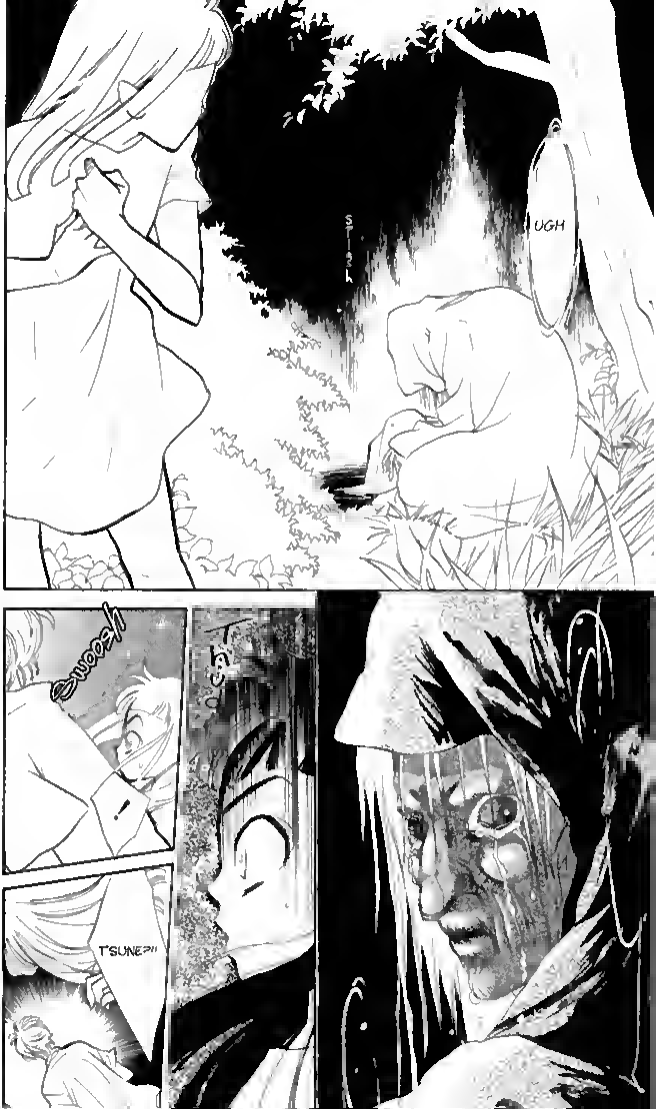
HEHE
LET'S GO HOME
HIS SMILE
AND THE ATMO-SPHERE...
I'VE HAD THIS STRANGE FEELING
SINCE THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM,

HUH?
TSUNE ARE YOU GOING OUT?
YES. I'M GOING TO THE ART SUPPLY STORE
WHEN I CALLED TO ORDER SOME STUFF I WAS TOLD THAT HE'S SICK
I WANT TO SEE HOW HE IS.
I WANT TO GO, TOO
EH
.....
MY FACE FEELS HOT.

I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT LATELY.
A COUPLE DAYS BEFORE MY WIFE PASSED AWAY.
MY LATE GRANDPA SAID,
THAT IN MY YARD.
HE SAW A "BANSHEE"
SORRY, IT'S NOT TOO BAD, THOUGH
I'VE SEEN IT IN DAD'S PAINTINGS.
A BANSHEE
WILL WASH THE CLOTHES OF THE DOOMED IN A RIVER AND CLING TO THEM, WHILE CRYING IN THE FAMILY'S GARDEN
SHE'S THE FAIRY WHO FORETELLS DEATH
A PERSON WHO DARES TO KISS THAT UGLY FACE WILL BE GRANTED THREE WISHES
THE DAY WE SEE IT
IS THE DAY WE FEEL LIKE OUR TIME HAS COME

I WOULDN'T WANT TO KNOW.
IF I KNEW, THEN I WOULD BECOME RESIGNED TO IT
IF IT WERE YOU CRANE WOULD YOU WANT TO KNOW WHEN YOUR TIME WILL COME?
T'SUNE?
WHAT A BRAVE ANSWER
BUT NOT MANY PEOPLE HAVE THAT COURAGE
WE WILL FEEL LIKE OUR TIME HAS COME."
IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT THE STORE'S OWNER IS GOING TO DIE
T'SUNE
DOES IT?
YES.

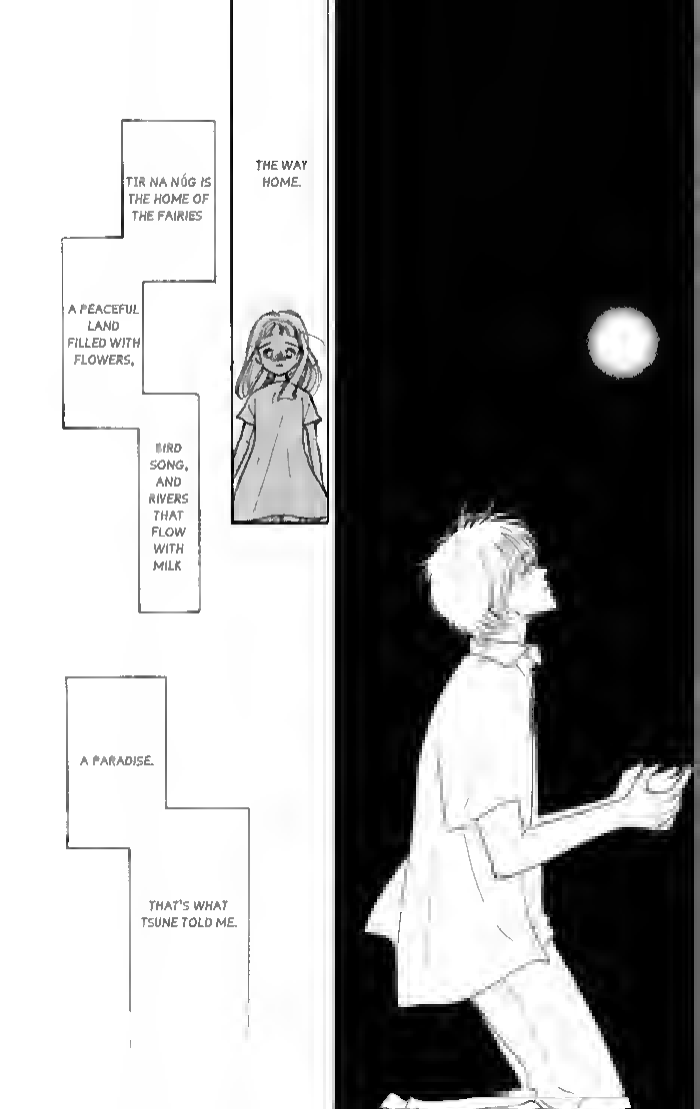
I DREAMT ABOUT GOING TO HIS GRAVE
DREAMT?
MY DREAMS OFTEN BECOME REALITY.
"LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO RAIN"
IT CAN BE SAID THAT I CAN SEE THE FUTURE
SIGNIFICANT AND INSIGNIFICANT
I CAN SEE SOMETHING THAT WILL HAPPEN AROUND ME LIKE SEEING A MOVIE THAT KEEPS ON ROLLING.
Finish

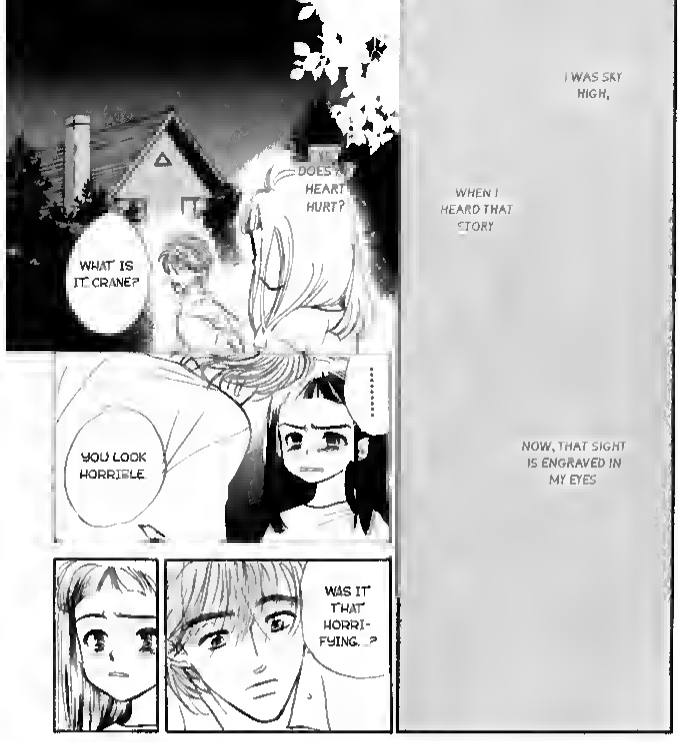

UGH
SPISH
Ha?
Ha?
T'SUNE?!!

"A PERSON WHO DARES TO KISS THAT UGLY FACE WILL BE GRANTED THREE WISHES."
OOOH
WHY AM I THINKING ABOUT THAT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
STUPID ME!

THE
BANSHEE

*Known as "the other world" in Irish mythology. Eternal world


THE WAY HOME.
TIR NA NÓG IS THE HOME OF THE FAIRIES
A PEACEFUL LAND FILLED WITH FLOWERS,
BIRD SONG, AND RIVERS THAT FLOW WITH MILK
A PARADISE.
THAT'S WHAT TSUNE TOLD ME.

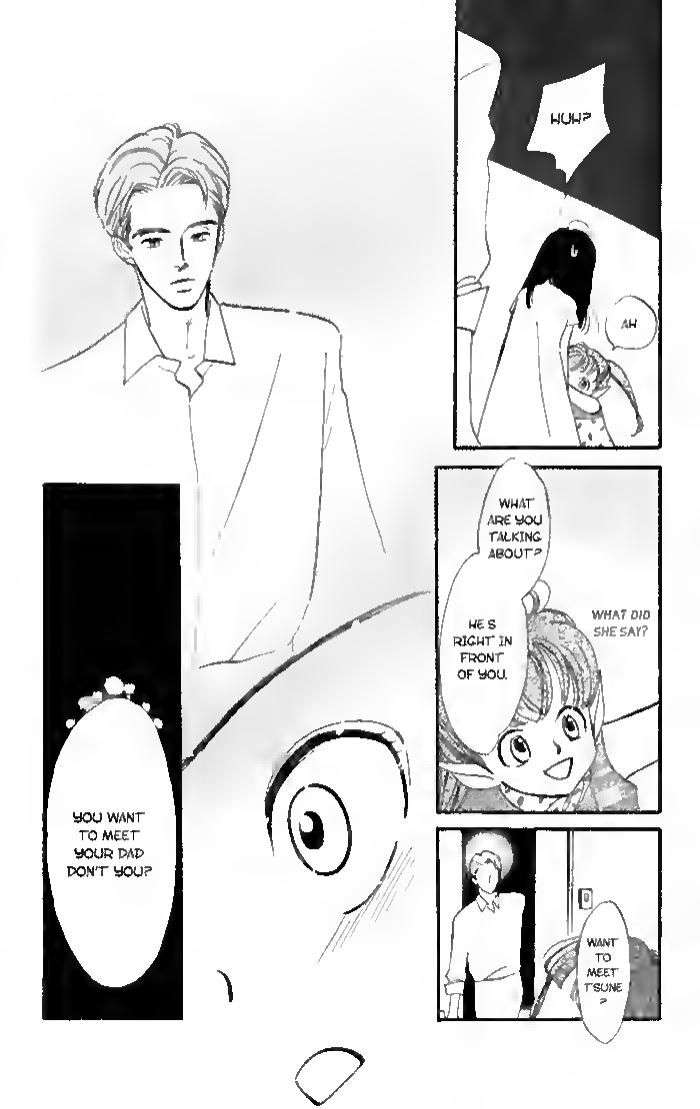

I WAS SKY HIGH,
WHEN I HEARD THAT STORY
DOES A HEART HURT?
WHAT IS IT CRANE?
YOU LOOK HORRIBLE
NOW, THAT SIGHT IS ENGRAVED IN MY EYES
WAS IT THAT HORRI-FYING...?

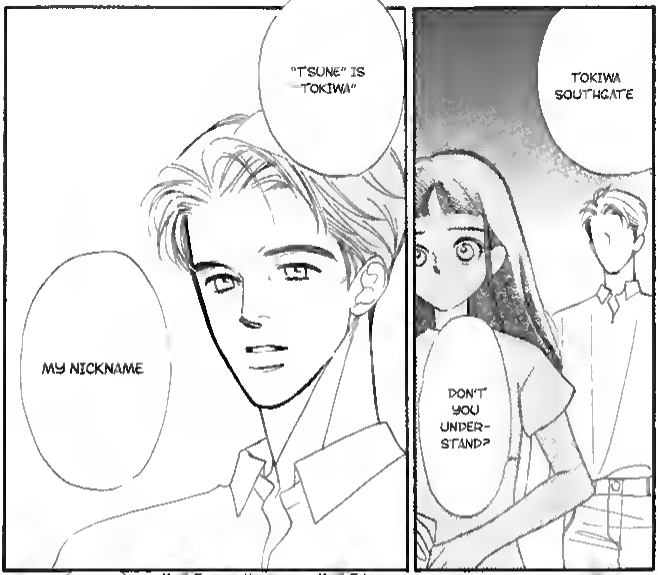
TSUNE
WOULD YOU KISS SOMEONE YOU LOVE LIKE THAT...?

GUH...
HE IS GOING TO LAUGH AT ME
NEVER-MIND, I WAS JUST BEING SILLY.
NO, YOU WEREN'T BEING SILLY

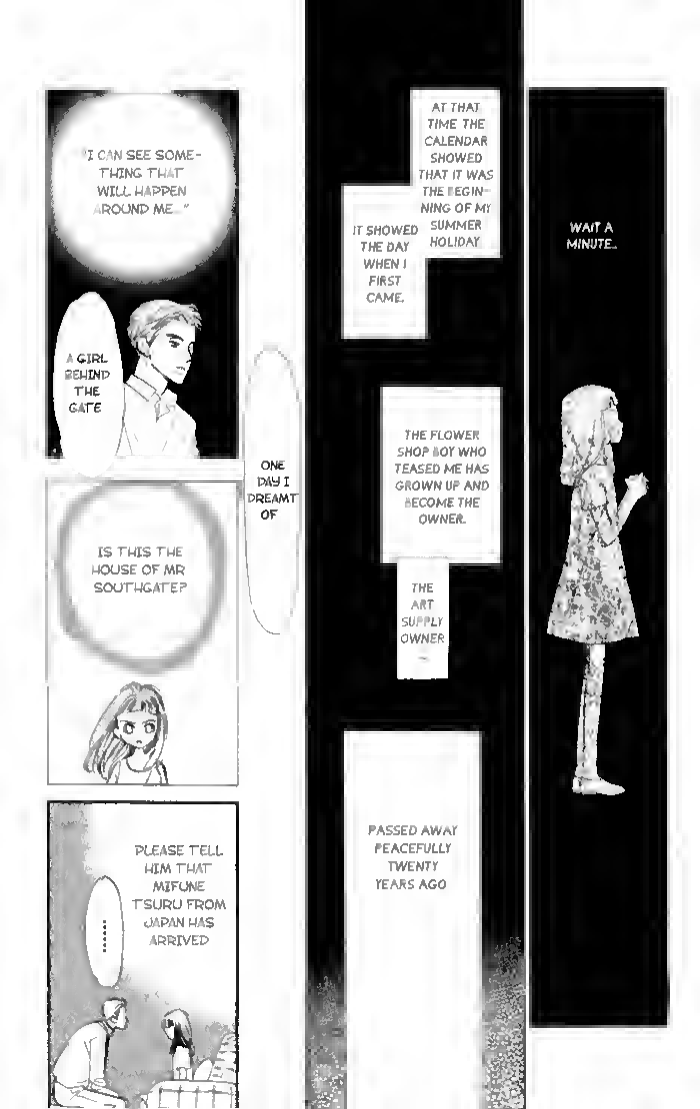
IF IT IS SOMEONE I LOVE—
TSUNE?

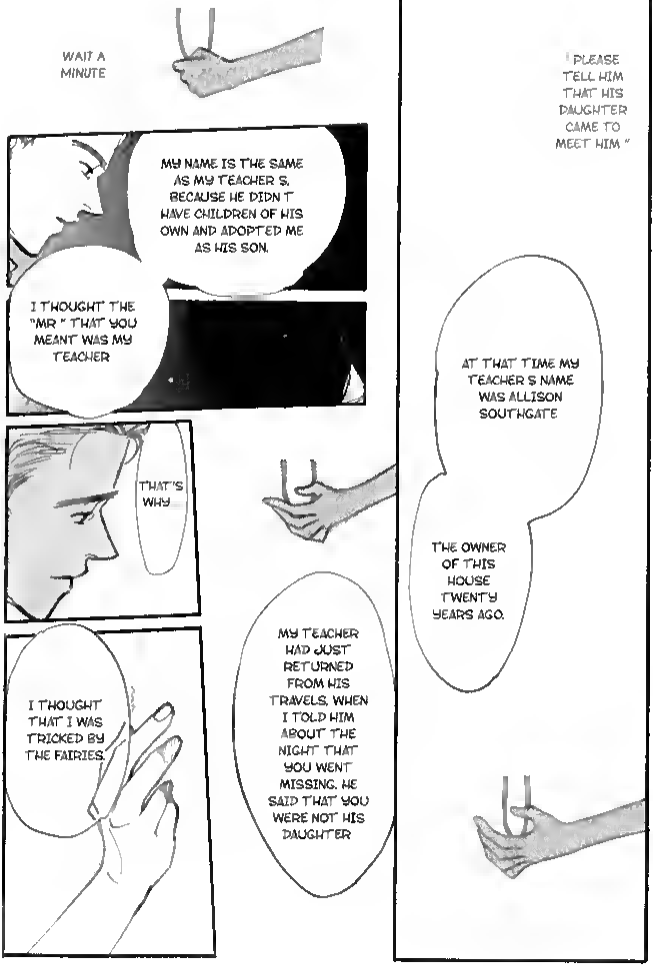
CRANE
IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS, CRANE!!
TACK! TSUNE'S MISSING!


WOW?
AH
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HE'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
WANT TO MEET T'SUNE?
YOU WANT TO MEET YOUR DAD DON'T YOU?

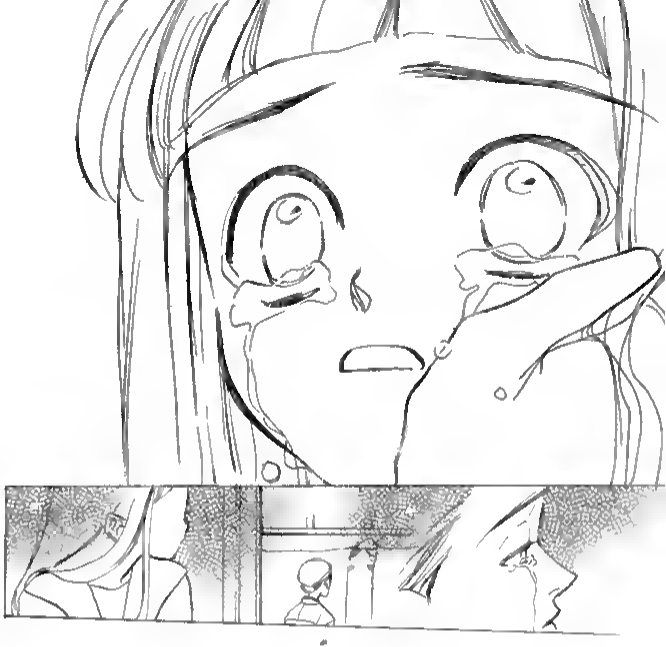


Kanji Tsune is the same as Kanji Toki


"I CAN SEE SOMETHING THAT WILL HAPPEN AROUND ME..."
A GIRL BEHIND THE GATE
IS THIS THE HOUSE OF MR SOUTHGATE?
PLEASE TELL HIM THAT MIFUNE TSURU FROM JAPAN HAS ARRIVED
.....
ONE DAY I DREAMT OF
PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY TWENTY YEARS AGO
IT SHOWED THE DAY WHEN I FIRST CAME.
AT THAT TIME THE CALENDAR SHOWED THAT IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF MY SUMMER HOLIDAY
THE FLOWER SHOP BOY WHO TEASED ME HAS GROWN UP AND BECOME THE OWNER.
THE ART SUPPLY OWNER
WAIT A MINUTE..


WAIT A MINUTE
MY NAME IS THE SAME AS MY TEACHER S, BECAUSE HE DIDN T HAVE CHILDREN OF HIS OWN AND ADOPTED ME AS HIS SON.
I THOUGHT THE "MR " THAT YOU MEANT WAS MY TEACHER
THAT'S WHY
I THOUGHT THAT I WAS TRICKED BY THE FAIRIES.
MY TEACHER HAD JUST RETURNED FROM HIS TRAVELS. WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT THE NIGHT THAT YOU WENT MISSING. HE SAID THAT YOU WERE NOT HIS DAUGHTER
AT THAT TIME MY TEACHER S NAME WAS ALLISON SOUTHGATE
THE OWNER OF THIS HOUSE TWENTY YEARS AGO.
" PLEASE TELL HIM THAT HIS DAUGHTER CAME TO MEET HIM "

I MET YOUR MOM WHO IS FROM JAPAN AND LOOKS LIKE YOU AND IS CALLED "MIFUNE"
UNTIL..
IT WASN'T DREAM AFTER ALL...
PLONK



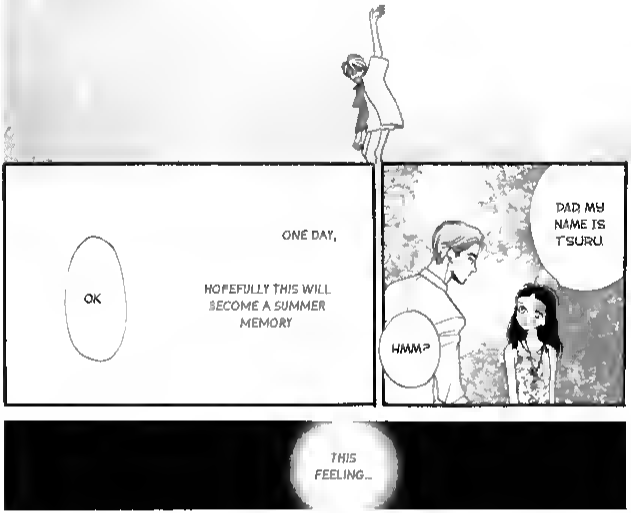
SO THIS IS NOT A DREAM.

AT THE TIME, I THOUGHT THAT HE WAS JUST BEING RUDE.
.....
IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS SHOCKED TO SEE ME
OH I STILL REMEMBER
CRANE
HUH?
WHEN I FIRST MET YOUR DAD?
RUDE?
TSURU,
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT IT FROM YOUR DAD?
HUH?
ABOUT WHAT?

A LONG TIME AGO
HE SAID THAT I LOOKED LIKE SOMEONE HE LIKED
CRANE

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME
WOW.

CRANE
THAT'S THE AMULET MADE FROM NIRE-TREE
IT MEANS, FAIRY'S PROTEC-TION.
TSU..
CRANE?
I CANNOT CALL HIM "TSUNE"
THIS FEELING THAT I CANNOT CALL HIS NAME, I WILL LOCK IT AWAY IN MY TREASURE CHEST


ONE DAY,
HOPEFULLY THIS WILL BECOME A SUMMER MEMORY
OK
DAD MY NAME IS TSURU
HMM?
THIS FEELING...

THE LOVE THAT I CANNOT FORGET
-End of Welcome to Slope Mansion-

CREDITS Scanner: unknown & whime | Translator: cupiz CREDITS

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This work is from fans to fans. If you like Takao Shigeru's work, support her by buying the manga

Proofreader: Margaret Man | Editor: Funchan | QCer: Margaret Man & whime

素顔の風景
[part 1]
VIEW OF A CLEAR FACE
A VIEW SEEN FROM FOUR ANGLES.
THE LOVE STORY THAT I WROTE BEGINS.
MEI HAS KNOWN HER BOYFRIEND NAO WHO IS TWO YEARS YOUNGER SINCE CHILDHOOD NAO IS IN THE SWIMMING CLUB
THE MAIN CHARACTER IS MEI
Skrrt

IN SUMMER SHE CHEERS HIM ON DURING THE TIMED LAPS
IN SPRING WORN OUT FROM PRACTICE
HE RESTS ON HIS GIRLFRIEND'S LAP BENEATH THE CHERRY TREES
IN AUTUMN SHE MAKES BOXED LUNCHES FOR HIM
IN WINTER THEY HOLD HANDS TO KEEP EACH OTHER WARM
Akiraaaaa
AKIRA.

Hi!
DON'T SKIP SCHOOL, TADASHI!
THE TRUTH IS...
3-2
WE WHO ARE ALSO CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
ARE A COUPLE ONLY IN THE STORY THAT I WROTE!
SO...
IT'S ONLY IN YOUR HEAD?

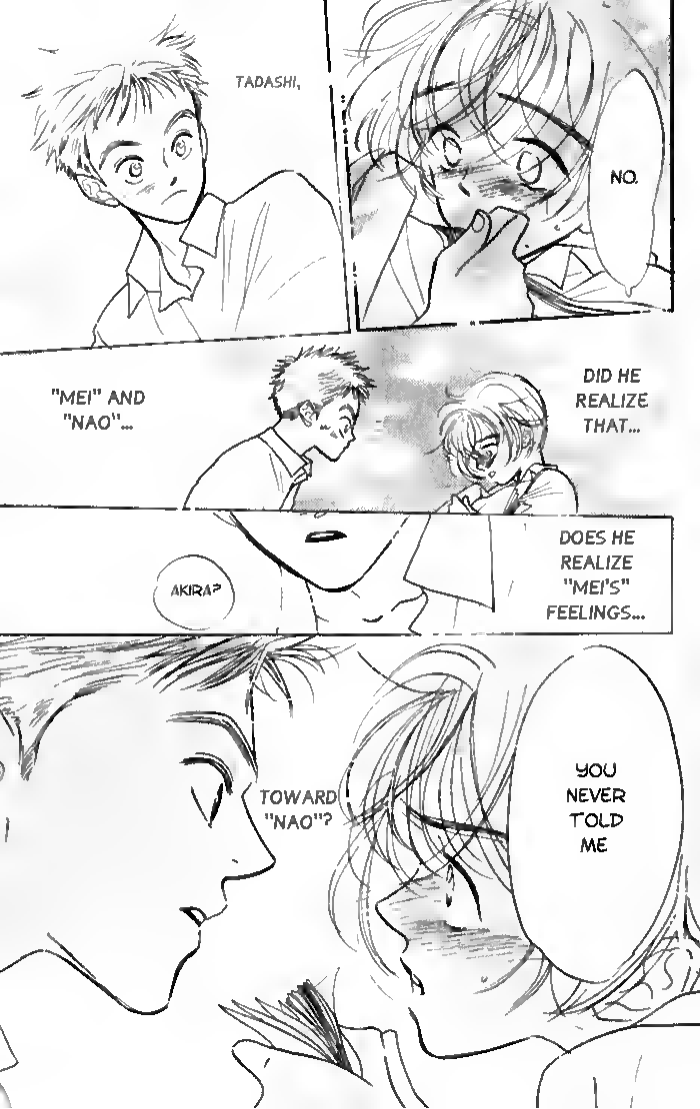
That's harsh!
IT'S BETTER IF YOU SAY DREAMS
Relax
SO?
WHERE'S THE STORY NOW?
UM...
AT THE BIG SCENE...
WHEN THEY GET TOGETHER.
DO YOU MEAN YOUR FANTASY?
HEY, LET'S GO HOME
AH, SURE.
LITERATURE CLUB
ONE DAY, ME! REMEMBERED THE LETTER IN HER BAG
HOW ABOUT YOU AKIRA? I want to go home I like that too.
UM...
I'M HEADING TO THE CLUB-ROOM
IT MUST BE NICE.
Later

SHE WROTE IT TO NAO BEFORE THEY STARTED GOING OUT
HOWEVER THEY LEARNED ABOUT EACH OTHER'S FEELING TWO DAYS BEFORE SHE PLANNED ON GIVING IT TO HIM
SO THE LETTER WAS REMAINED THERE MISSING ITS OPPORTUNITY TO BE GIVEN
MEI REMEMBERS WHEN SHE WROTE THAT LETTER
THEY WERE CLOSE LIKE SIBLINGS SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG
BECAUSE MEI WAS OLDER THAN NAO
IT BECAME AWKWARD WHEN SHE STARTED TO HAVE FEELINGS FOR HIM
WOULD BE EASIER IF NAO WERE THE SAME AGE..
MAYBE IT WOULD BE EASIER TO CONFESS
OR IF HE WERE OLDER?
IF THE GUY WASN'T YOUNGER

BECAUSE HE WAS YOUNGER.
IT'S PROBABLY WEIRD.
I WAS LIKE AN OLDER SISTER.
HMM...
NO MATTER WHAT.
MEI COULD NOT GIVE HIM THE LETTER.
IS HE NOT IN CLUB TODAY?
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFESS.
THIS FEELING SHOULD NEVER HAVE GROWN.
NEVERTHELESS.
HER FEELINGS FOR NAO WERE RECORDED IN HER DIARY.
WHICH WAS READ BY NAO.
WHO HAD DROPPED BY FOR A VISIT

NAO SUDDENLY REALIZED THAT MEI HAD FEELINGS FOR HIM AND CONFESSED HIS LOVE TO HER
THE FEELINGS THAT NAO ALSO HAD FOR MEI
AKIRA AKIRA YOU KNOW
I WANT TO TAKE THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR YOUR HIGH SCHOOL
EH?
IS THAT SO? IS THAT WHAT YOU DECIDED?
FROM WHAT YOU TOLD ME, THAT SCHOOL SEEMS FUN
BESIDES, IT'S NEARBY.
AND AKIRA WILL BE THERE, TOO.
HMM

AKIRA
YOU'RE GOING TO GET SICK YOU KNOW
Ah, she's awake
WH- WH- WH- WHY ARE YOU READING THAT!!?
HUH?
WAS I NOT SUPPOSED TO?
Oh!!
startle
AAH...
YOU
THE CLUB...
ARE YOU MAD?
KYA AAA
WHAAAA...!?
What?!


TADASHI,
NO.
"MEI" AND "NAO"...
DID HE REALIZE THAT...
AKIRA?
DOES HE REALIZE "MEI'S" FEELINGS...
TOWARD "NAO"?
YOU NEVER TOLD ME

IT'S GREAT!
HUH
MAYBE I SHOULD ASK FOR YOUR AUTOGRAPH FROM NOW ON
PLEASE WRITE "FOR MY DEAREST TADASHI", OK?
One day it could be published or something like that!
KYAAAAAAAA
U

IT'S LIKE A STORY IT'S LIKE A DREAM
Akira?
SWOON
REALLY ISN'T SO CONVENIENT
Akira did I say something wrong?
HE DOESN'T REALIZE IT
REALITY
I THINK THAT I SHOULD CHANGE THE ENDING.
DUMMY
EH?
I'M SORRY MEI

?
IF IT GOES ON LIKE THIS IT'S NOT GOING ANY FURTHER
I THINK...
THAT I'M GOING TO WRITE THAT LETTER
HUH?
TADASHI LET'S GO HOME
THAT "ME!" CANNOT GIVE TO "NAO"
I WILL GIVE HIM THE LETTER

[Part 2]
I FEEL THAT YOU ARE LIKE A FISH
IT WAS MY THIRTEENTH SUMMER AND THE FIRST TIME WE SWAM TOGETHER
YOU CHEATER
I FELT AS IF YOU COULD CONTROL THE WATER

THAT'S WHAT I FELT
IF IT ISN'T THE COLD-BLOODED— TADASHI
COLD-BLOODED
YOU NEVER VISITED ME LAST YEAR, WHEN I WAS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY.
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM YAMANO?
.....
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE TO HELP. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AND COMPETE TOGETHER IN THE SUMMER MEET
YAMANO HAD AN ACCIDENT LAST YEAR.
I already heard about it from your mom.
Is that so?
TRAINING SEASON IS STARTING. HOW ARE YOU DOING?

WHAT'S THIS?
SO-SO.
Is that so?
I guess.
I'M GOING TO BE YOUR JUNIOR
I'M REPEATING IT.
THAT'S MY REPORT CARD
Hmmm
FROM THE FIRST HALF OF MY FIRST YEAR
Want to see it?
I AM NOW
A 25 METER SWIMMER.
BONK
NICE, ISN'T IT?
YOU ARE REALLY A DUMMY, AREN'T YOU?

HUH!
...
HEY, FROM THE BACK
I LOOK LIKE THAT, DON'T I?
?
Huh?
DIDN'T YOU ONCE SAY
"FROM THE BACK."
"YAMANO WEAVES AROUND."
"AND NEVER WALKS IN A STRAIGHT LINE."
NOT LIKE BEFORE
I HEARD IT FROM THE DOCTORS
YAMANO?
IT'S NOT GOING TO HAMPER HIS DAILY ROUTINE
IF HE LIMITS HIMSELF ONLY TO LIGHT EXERCISE
?
RUMOR SAYS THAT HE CAN STILL SWIM
...
ONLY
...
TADASHI

DIP
YOU ARE WAITING FOR HIM TO COME BACK AREN'T YOU?
.....
EVEN IF THERE WAS, I DOUBT THAT HE'S AS FAST AS HE USED TO BE
THERE IS NO 25 METER RACE.
IS THAT WRONG, MANAGER?
OR IS HE GOING TO STICK WITH IT AND WAIT FOR A MIRACLE TO HAPPEN?
I DON'T THINK MY RIVAL IS GONE
DOES THAT MEAN THAT HE'S REACHED HIS LIMIT AS AN ATHLETE?
HE PRACTICED AGAIN AND AGAIN
JUST
IF HE'S NOT, HE CAN'T BE AN ATHLETE.
IF HE'S NOT AT LEAST AS FAST AS BEFORE,
DURING PHYSICAL THERAPY, HE MUST HAVE FELT ALONE
YOU'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND
!
t-P
t-P
WHAT DID HE MEAN WHEN HE SAID 'I AM NOW'?
IT'S NOT SWIMMING FOR HIM.

THAT SUMMER.
YES. I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.
MANAGER
UNTIL YAMANO JOINED THE CLUB, I WAS THE STAR.
How thoughtless.
DO YOU HAVE SOME CLUB BUSINESS?
Your tie is crooked
DURING THE SUMMER OF MY FIRST YEAR IN JUNIOR HIGH,
YAMANO!
I WAS THE FASTEST.
YO.
WAZZUP?
THAT WAS UNTIL YAMANO TRANSFERRED.
HERE.
THOSE THREE YEARS, I WAS THE SECOND BEST.
THOSE THREE YEARS IN JUNIOR HIGH, YAMANO WAS THE BEST.
BECOMING ONE WITH THE WATER.
YAMANO SWAM LIKE ALWAYS.
THOSE THREE YEARS SWIMMING IN THE SAME POOL.
Swimming Club
TRASHING AT THE WATER.
I FLUNG OUT MY ARMS.
Registration
Masashi Yamano
LIKE ALWAYS

YAMANO?
WHY DO I FEEL SO TENSE?
TADASHI!
AAARGHH!
25 M
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE RACED
25 M!
LET'S GO!
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
Afternoon Practice
DOES YAMANO...
SINCE HE REGISTERED
STILL HAVE HOPE?
SPLASH
NOT GIVING UP RIGHT?
SPLASH
YOU'RE
SPLASH

Sfx. SPLASH

AAH
THIS SATIS-FACTION
I LOVE IT WHEN WE'RE SWIMMING TOGETHER
IT'S SO MUCH FUN AND ALIVE
THAT'S WHY...
I WANT US TO SWIM TOGETHER MORE MUCH MORE!
SPLASH

I CLOSED MY EYES AND THEN SAW YAMANO, WHO LOOKED LIKE HE HAD JUST BEEN MAULED BY A DOG, STRUGGLING TO SWIM PAST ME.

SPLASH
YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST A FISH
2

THERE'S A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD
MANA-GER
THAT SHINING FUTURE
THOUGH YOU WERE BRILLIANT
BYE
HEY, HOLD ON IS THIS...
A RESIG-NATION LETTER!?
YAMANO...
YOU WERE BRILLIANT
THEN WHY THE HECK DID YOU REGISTER?!

WHY CAN'T YOU STAY HERE ?

FROM YOUR FACE, I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE DEVASTATED

I HOPE THAT EVERYONE ELSE WILL THINK THAT IT'S WATER FROM THE POOL.

[Part 3]

LIBRARY
THE ACCURATE WAY TO DESCRIBE THE FUTURE IS NOT AS A "DREAM" BUT RATHER A "BLUEPRINT". I WONDER WHEN DID IT BECOME LIKE THIS?
LIBRARY
A TEACHER GAVE IT TO ME AS ANOTHER OPTION.
NOT ONLY DO WE TAKE THE INSIDE EXAM* THEY'RE GIVING US RECOMMENDATIONS AS WELL.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CONFUSED?
A new regis tration form?
YOSHITSUKI ARE YOU APPLYING TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL?
I THOUGHT THAT YOU WANTED TO GO TO BANDAI GIRL'S ACADEMY.
KANAN GIRL'S ACADEMY
10/14

*Some Japanese schools offer an easier entrance exam to their own students.

BUT IT'S SO BORING
AFTER GRADUATING
TUSHE
NOT REALLY
WORK AS AN OFFICE LADY, FALL IN LOVE AND GET MARRIED
TWO YEARS IN JUNIOR COLLEGE
NOTHING'S GOING TO CHANGE.
Hana~
THOSE THINGS
THE BLUEPRINT BECOMES CLEARER.
WE CAN STILL HAVE FUN, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T WANT THEM
I FEEL THAT
BECAUSE IT'S AT A BIT HIGHER OF A LEVEL
STUDY HARD
WE CAN SEE..
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN
BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT'LL BE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE
EITHER ONE WILL BE THE SAME
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS
PLAY HARD
IT'S LIKE THIS
...

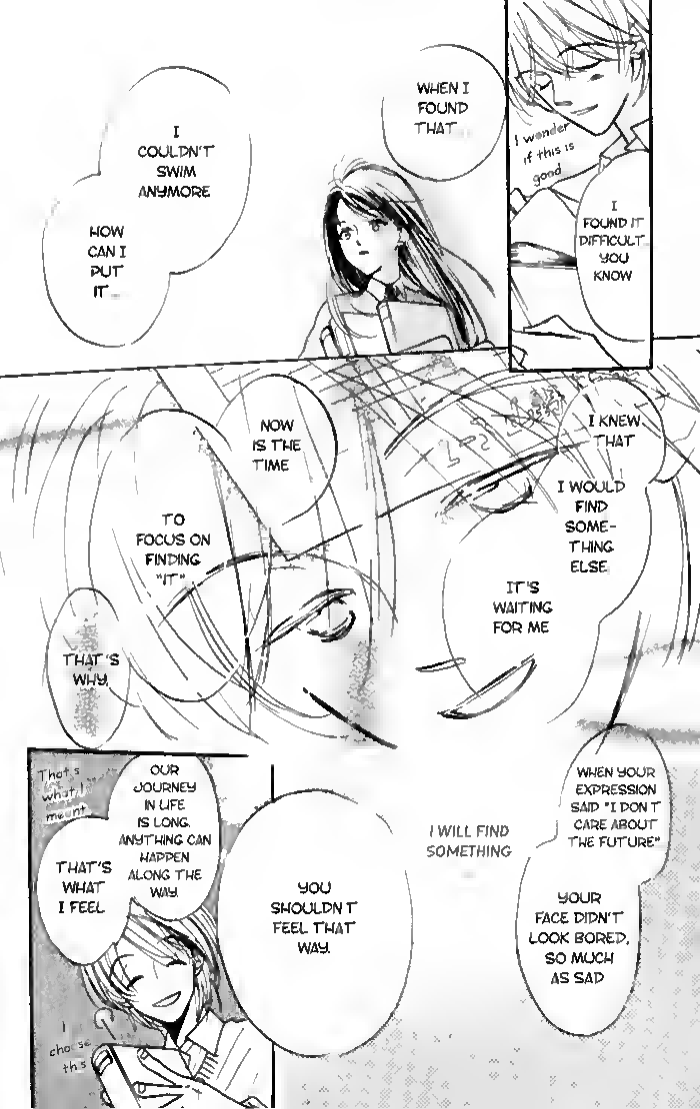
DO YOU WANT TO RETURN THIS?
Well this card is already full
So I'll make you another one
Ok
WHAT?
YOU LOOK BORED
DON'T WORRY.
I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT
YOU'RE BORED, AREN'T YOU?
Sfx. pat
BECAUSE SENSEI, YOU NEVER HOW THE FUTURE WILL TURN OUT!
WHO?

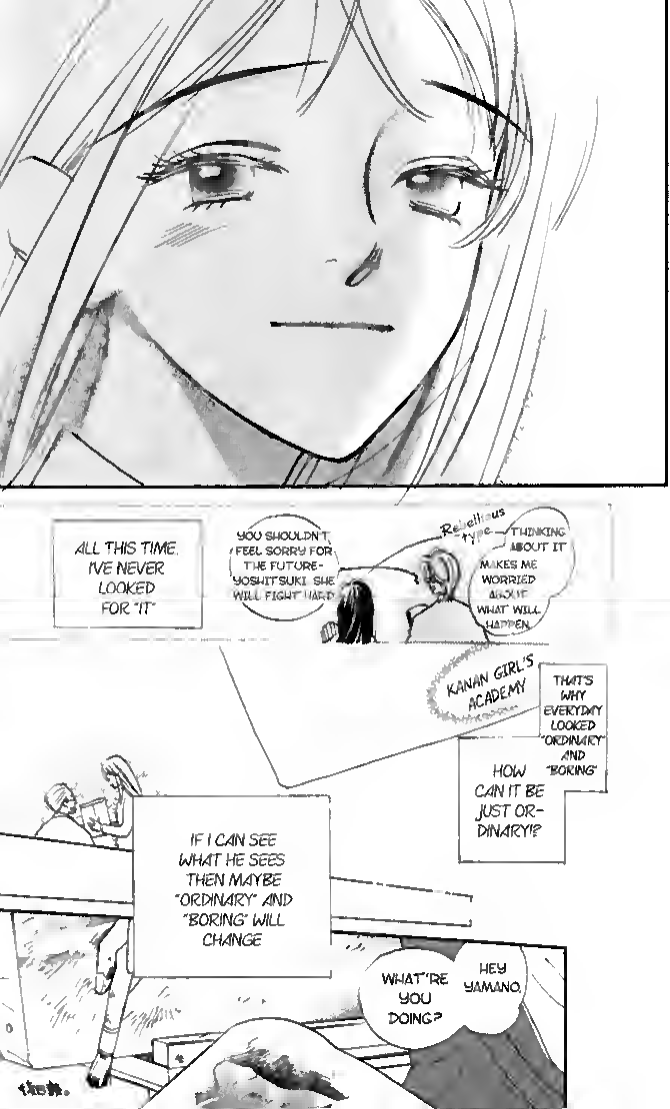
LIBRARY CARD
No 2
King of the World
1-3 Masashi Y
HA HA HA
YES
YAMANO-SAN IS LIKE THAT
DO YOU KNOW HIM, KOGA?
HE'S IN MY CLASS.
HE'S A BIT ECCENTRIC.
BUT HE'S EASY GOING AND A LOT OF FUN
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER VACATION HE'S COME BY THE LIBRARY OFTEN
Never seen him?
DO YOU REMEMBER HIM, NISHI-SENPAI?
ME?
ACTUALLY HE'S IN THE SECOND YEAR BUT HE TOOK A YEAR OFF
AH!
IN THE SUMMER OF HIS FIRST YEAR, HE GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT
are you serious?
I RE-MEMBER
I didn't recognize him because he's in a different class
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN HE WAS IN THE SWIMMING CLUB, RIGHT?
O SEE
So is that him?
HE'S KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE PREFECTURE, YOU KNOW
BECAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT HE CAN'T BE AN ATHLETE ANY-MORE
YOU NEVER KNOW HOW THE FUTURE WILL TURN OUT
Waaa
SPRAY

THUMP
AH!
G'DAY. YOU'RE HEADED TO CLASS, RIGHT?
YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH A COLD YOU KNOW.
He's being a bit too familiar
Woah, that's cold.
I WAS JUST DOING MY BEST IMPRESSION FROM E.R.
NOW I WANT TO SEE YOU COMPLAIN
YOU SAID THAT SO NONCHALANTLY
THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY'S ADVICE.
YOUR LIFE IS LIKE A DRAMA, ISN'T IT?

Sorry
MISS. IT'S A LOT
HEAPS OF THEM.
YOSHITSUKI-SAN IS THE LIST OF THE LIBRARY CARDS DONE?
WHICH PART?
HIM?
E.R. !?
LIBRARY CARD
WHAT'S THIS?
HUH?
SO THIS IS HIS FIRST CARD
GOOD DAY.
HE BOR-ROWED DOZENS OF DIFFERENT BOOKS
THIS IS
EVEN IF HE REALLY LIKES TO READ,
LITE-RA-TURE.
BIO-LOGY.
HIST-ORY.
ARCHI-TEC-TURE.
ANCIENT HISTORY + CULTURE
CLAS-SICS.
etc
etc
etc...
THAT WAS ALL IN SEPTEMBER JUST A MONTH

LIBRARY CARD
I CATCH YOU SLEEPING SOMETIMES.
SORRY.
.....
WOW?
I GOT SCOLDED BY KOGA.
HE SAID THAT I SHOULDN'T PICK ON YOU.
I REALLY WASN'T TRYING TO MOCK YOU.
Thanks
E.R., RIGHT?
YEAH
I...
DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER TALENTS
OTHER THAN SWIMMING.
YOU'RE A PART OF THE STAFF, RIGHT?
You've probably heard it from Koga—
?


I COULDN'T SWIM ANYMORE
HOW CAN I PUT IT...
WHEN I FOUND THAT...
I wonder if this is good
I FOUND IT DIFFICULT YOU KNOW
NOW IS THE TIME
TO FOCUS ON FINDING "IT"
THAT'S WHY
I KNEW THAT
I WOULD FIND SOME-THING ELSE
IT'S WAITING FOR ME
That's what I meant
OUR JOURNEY IN LIFE IS LONG. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN ALONG THE WAY.
THAT'S WHAT I FEEL
I chose this
YOU SHOULDN'T FEEL THAT WAY.
I WILL FIND SOMETHING
WHEN YOUR EXPRESSION SAID "I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE"
YOUR FACE DIDN'T LOOK BORED, SO MUCH AS SAD


ALL THIS TIME, I'VE NEVER LOOKED FOR "IT"
YOU SHOULDN'T FEEL SORRY FOR THE FUTURE-YOSHITSUKI. SHE WILL FIGHT HARD
Rebellious type
THINKING ABOUT IT MAKES ME WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN.
KANAN GIRL'S ACADEMY
THAT'S WHY EVERYDAY LOOKED "ORDINARY" AND "BORING"
HOW CAN IT BE JUST ORDINARY!?
IF I CAN SEE WHAT HE SEES THEN MAYBE "ORDINARY" AND "BORING" WILL CHANGE
HEY YAMANO
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
the fi.

OH.
BY THE WAY.
CAN I HAVE YOUR LIBRARY CARD?
Next I'm going to the chemistry lab. Then to photography.
Even though you don't have talent, eh.
EVEN IF WE FIND THAT SOMETHING
I JOINED THE ART CLUB.
I LIKE READING.
BUT I PREFER TO DO THINGS.
YES ONE DAY.
WHAT AM I. A SHRINE OR SOMETHING?
IT'S GOING TO BE MY GOOD LUCK CHARM
SURE.
BUT WHAT FOR?
WELL, I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE BEST CHARM
FOR SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING NEW AND EXCITING
BECAUSE I WANT THAT "BLUEPRINT" TO CHANGE TO "HOPES AND DREAMS" AGAIN.
Really?
I'M HOPING THAT SOME OF YOUR OPTIMISM WILL RUB OFF ON ME

[Part 4]
I ONCE HEARD...
SEWING ROOM
WHICHEVER WORKS.
YOU GIRLS ARE GOING TO BE BRIDES SOON YOU KNOW.
YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT
Do what you like
HOW COLD !!
Come on
MAT'SUZAWA-SENSEI
WHICH DO YOU THINK SUITS A BRIDE THE BEST? THE WHITE GOWN?
THAT A WEDDING IS ONLY FOR THE BRIDE

Eh?
Really?
Eww
Gross
That's cold
GUYS DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THE WEDDING CEREMONY.
IF YOU WANT TO HAVE A GOOD CEREMONY,
YOU WILL HAVE TO PUT IN THE EFFORT
THAT'S AWFUL!
SO, HOW ABOUT YOU, SENSEI? WHICH ONE DO YOU PREFER?
THE WHITE DRESS,
SINCE IT'S GOING TO BE IN A CHURCH
Though the tiara and flannel dress is also nice
SLIDE
TOMOKO-SENSEI!
THE PRINCIPAL IS LOOKING FOR YOU
IT'S ALL DONE SENSEI
THE CLUB PRESIDENT AOI AYANE-SAN'S MOTHER
TAUGHT SEWING TO TOMOKO-SENSEI.
Tomoko-sensei's teacher?
SHE'S MAKING TOMOKO-SENSEI'S WEDDING GOWN
WHAT'S IT LIKE?
THAT'S A SECRET
COME ON, EVERYONE BACK TO WORK
Clap Clap
PROJECT'S WILL BE TURNED IN TODAY.
BOO
SIGH

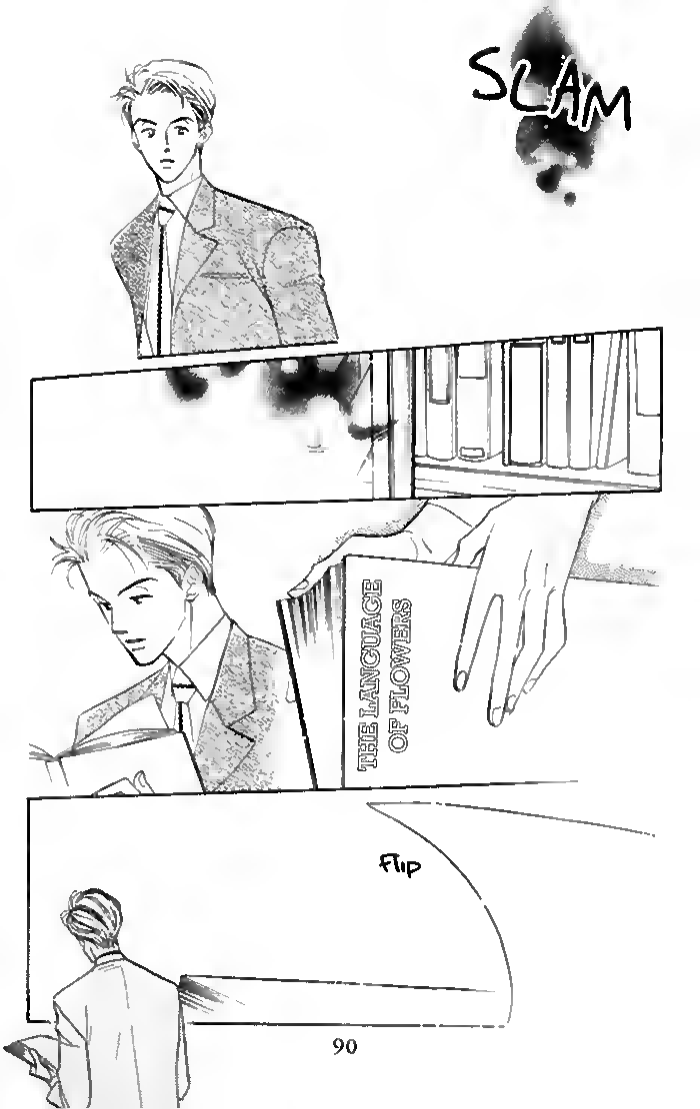
VIEW OF A CLEAR FACE
I SHOULD GET BACK TO THE PREPARATION ROOM
BUT SENSEI
That's quite ignorant of me
HOW COULD YOU NOT HAVE KNOWN MATSUZAWA-SENSEI? YOU ARE OUR CLUB'S ADVISOR.
YOUR SERVICE IS GREAT, AOI-BUCHOU*
*buchou = president
Enjoy
ON TOP OF HELPING ME OUT
YOU'RE GIVING PERSONAL SERVICE, TOO.
JAPANESE PREPARATION ROOM
ALL WOMEN DREAM ABOUT THEIR WEDDING GOWNS
I WANT YOU TO SEE IT

IS THAT SO?
A STUDENT IN YOUR CLASS, NAMED AOI BROUGHT IT IN.
SHE SAID IT'S THE FIRST BLOOM FROM THE GARDEN
WHAT A LOVELY LILY OF THE VALLEY.
Wow
Yeah Yeah
WELL, KEEP YOUR SPIRITS UP
THE VALLEY LILY MEANS "YOU WILL FIND HAPPINESS" YOU KNOW.
WORKING AND MAKING PREPARATIONS IS QUITE THE LOAD
Yeah
IT'S ONLY A MONTH UNTIL YOUR WEDDING, RIGHT?
YOU MUST BE VERY BUSY.
Ah
I KNOW THE ENGLISH OFTEN USED IT IN BOUQUETS.
HA HA
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT AOI WANTS TO TELL YOU. THAT YOUR STUDENTS WISH YOU WELL
"YOU WILL FIND HAPPINESS" IS IT?
IS THAT SO...
SENSEI
YOUR BUTTON IS COMING OFF

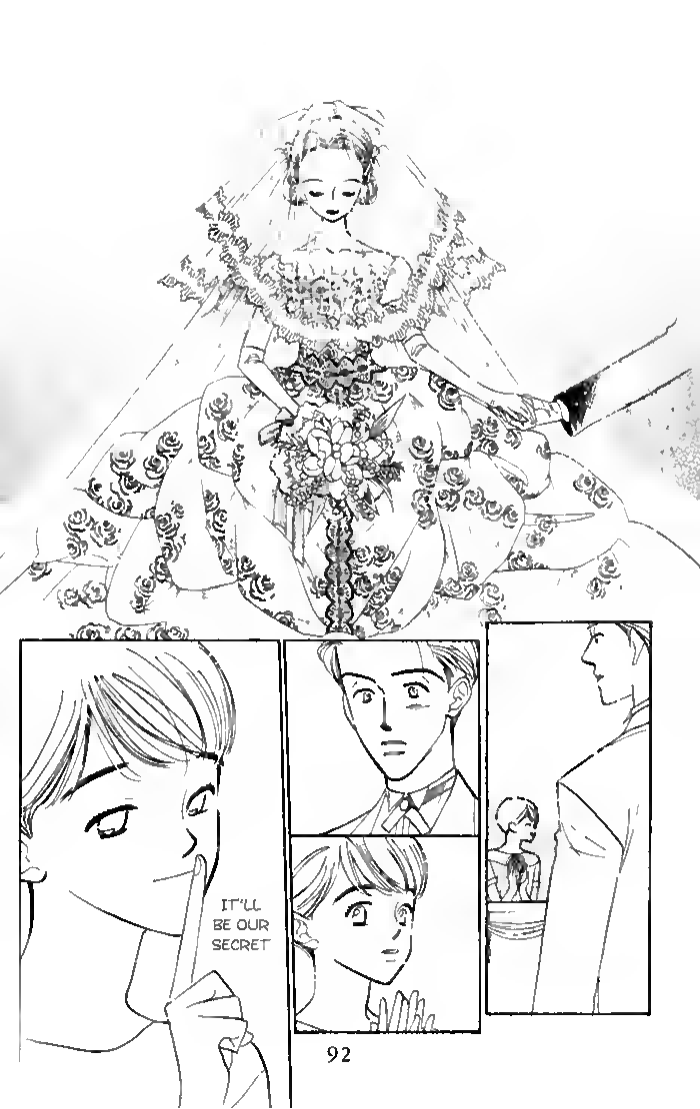
PLEASE
I'LL FIX IT, OK?
OH?
*The Language of Flowers
THE CLASSICAL LITERATURE TEACHER KOJIMA-SENSEI
SAID THAT THE VALLEY LILY MEANS "YOU WILL FIND HAPPINESS" SO, ARE YOU WISHING ME HAPPINESS?
BY THE WAY, DO YOU KNOW THE MEANINGS OF FLOWERS?
EH?
OH, SO YOU DIDN'T KNOW.
"WILL FIND HAPPINESS"?
?
AOI?

JUST KIDDING.
TAKE CARE, DARLING. ♡
RUSTLE
I...
STANDING NEXT TO THE MAN I LOVE THE MOST
THE DREAM OF WHEN I BECOME A BRIDE.
YOU WILL MAKE SOMEONE A GOOD WIFE.
WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING SPECIAL.
HERE, SENSEI
flap
MY DREAM
IS TO WEAR MY OWN DESIGN
TO MY WEDDING.

A WHITE GOWN ELEGANTLY EMBROIDERED WITH SMALL GOLDEN FLOWERS
TRIMMED WITH LOVELY LACE
A BOUQUET OF VALLEY LILIES
A CLEAN LOOK WITHOUT ACCESSORIES
EXCEPT FOR A PURE WHITE VEIL
IT'LL BE OUR SECRET, OK?


SLAM
THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS
FLIP

DING
DONG
DING
DONG


IT'LL BE OUR SECRET

SO A WEDDING
IS ONLY FOR THE BRIDE RIGHT?
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
SO THAT'S IT
WHEN YOU'RE STANDING NEXT TO THE ONE
NO-THING.
PLEASE REMEMBER.
YOU SIMPLY LOOK BEAUTIFUL
WHO YOU LOVE THE MOST IN THE WHOLE WORLD
WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN TO BECOME A BRIDE

MADE THIS GOWN
TO KNOW THAT AOI
YOU KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO BE SURPRISED
SINCE IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL MY TEACHER TOLD ME

THE "TEARS OF MARY".

ANOTHER MEANING FOR THE VALLEY LILY IS

View of a clear face / END

CREDITS Scanners: unknown & whime | Translator: cupliz CREDITS

This work is from fans to fans. IF you like Takao Shigeru's work, support her by buying the manga

Proofreader: Margaret Man | Editor: Funchan | QCers: Margaret Man & whime

MONALISA

OMAKE ①

"MONALISA"

I've been told that Mika is plain looking, so I took another look at her and it's true (ha ha ha). I think the boy she likes looks much better. But I like Mika's character. I can easily draw Mika, her brother, and Yasunaga as well. Strange, isn't it?

But the difficult part was drawing the (exaggerated) sports scene. I drew it at the last minute before the deadline. Indeed, Shigeru is not good at drawing.

By the way, a lot of people asked about the brother. "The model is the karate master XX, right?" Because I'm afraid that his fans will get mad, I said, "Yes, they do look alike" (ha ha ha). When it came time to decide on a title, I didn't even have the story yet. It's upsetting when the title and the story don't match. Sigh.

THE FIRST LOVE
YASUNAGA KATSUYA ...
I LIKE YOU !!

A CONFESSION
PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME!!

WHAT DID I DO WRONG...!?
THREE BIG STEPS IN A ROW
I'M SORRY.
BOW
A BROKEN HEART
THEN
PLEASE SIGN RIGHT HERE.

CERTAINLY.
CAN YOU HELP MY SON?
THE CONTRACT IS COMPLETE.

THE CASE IS STRAIGHT FORWARD, AND YOU HAVE PAID IN FULL

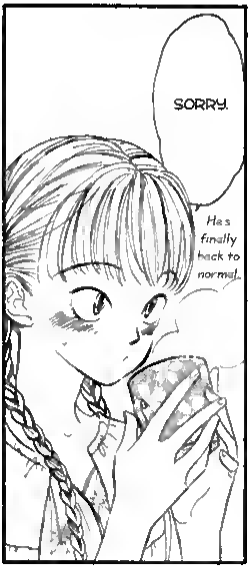
BANG
ONII-CHAAN !!!!
I'LL DO IT AS SOON AS I CAN—

DEVIL OR WHATEVER, THE BOTTOM LINE IS, PLEASE LISTEN TO ME...!!!!
SO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.

I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP!!!!
TRUST THE DEVIL.
IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF A CERTAIN CITY
THE EN ART GALLERY PRESENTS A RESPECTABLE FACE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. BUT DEEP WITHIN THE BUILDING,

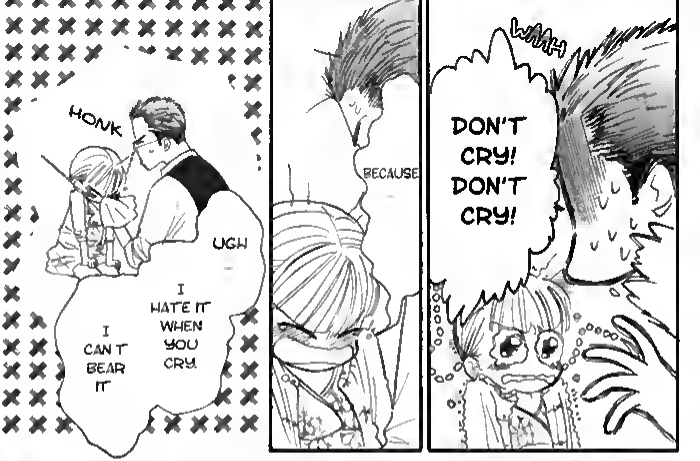
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU? YOU CAN'T COME IN WHEN I'M WITH A CLIENT.
TO THE SCATTERED DEVILS THAT DWELL IN THIS COUNTRY
FOR THEM THE WAY IS OPEN
LIES A DOOR THAT REMAINS UNSEEN EXCEPT TO THOSE IN DIRE NEED

WELL
YOU SEE,
WHAT WAS WITH HER?
WHAT WAS THE CONTRACT THIS TIME?

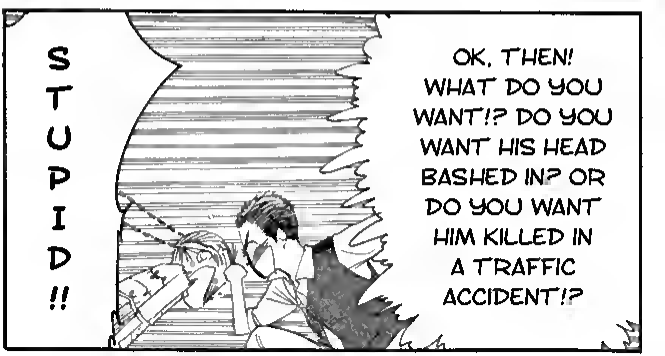

SORRY.
Has finally back to normal.

WHAT WAS THE PAYMENT?
SHE GAVE A SCORE OF YEARS FROM HER LIFE.
HER SON WAS A TERMINAL DISEASE THAT THE DOCTORS COULD NOT DO ANYTHING MORE FOR.

HA HA
AN AGREEMENT WITH A DEVIL
NEEDS A SOUL, VIRGINITY OR PART OF THE HUMAN BODY
THOUGH THEY ARE BOTH MOTHERS,
HOW DIFFERENT THIS ONE IS.
TEN YEARS AGO
THEN
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY A "BROKEN HEART"...?
THEN I WAS ADOPTED AND RAISED BY THIS DEVIL
WHEN I WAS 5 YEARS OLD,
I ALMOST DIED WHEN MY MOM ABANDONED ME IN THE SNOW.


WAAH
DON'T CRY! DON'T CRY!
BECAUSE
HONK
UGH
I HATE IT WHEN YOU CRY.
I CAN'T BEAR IT

hic hic
I THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE THE DEVIL.

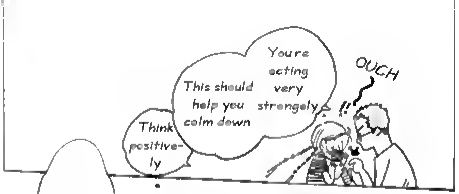

STUPID!!
OK, THEN! WHAT DO YOU WANT!? DO YOU WANT HIS HEAD BASHED IN? OR DO YOU WANT HIM KILLED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT!?

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU DO THAT!
BECAUSE, HE IS...
STUPID! STUPID! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!!
HUH?
A SOCCER PLAYER.
10

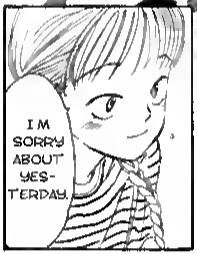
OH...
THE SON OF THE PHARMACY OWNER
YES,
HIS MOTHER DIED WHEN HE WAS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL
HMM
A FATHER AND A SON HUH?
THAT'S KIND OF SIMILAR TO OUR SITUATION
WHAT
It seems very different to me
WHY WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT YASUNAGA?
IT'S A DUTY OF A BROTHER TO KNOW ABOUT HIS SISTER'S BOYFRIEND
I am your parent...
Just like a parent
HE'S NICE
AND VERY COOL
ARE YOU JEALOUS?

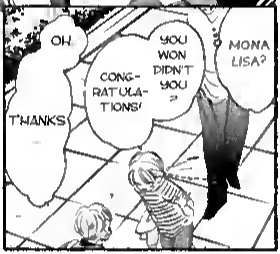
HMMM
.....
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP
PLOP
IT'S A POTION
WHAT?
.....
HERE!
Hurry!
I LOVE YOU, ONII-CHAN!
THEN
THAT HURTS!
SPRITZ

My all time favorite character was drawn by Izumi Takemoto. Then comes Cie who created by Haruki, Tadashi who shows up in the latest novel by Kaoru Kitamura, and Aerith from FF7.
The ending of Final Fantasy 7
Aerith
RS
That was the first time that a game made me cry


Think positively-
This should help you calm down
You're acting very strangely
OUCH

MONA-LISA!


I'M SORRY ABOUT YES-TERDAY.

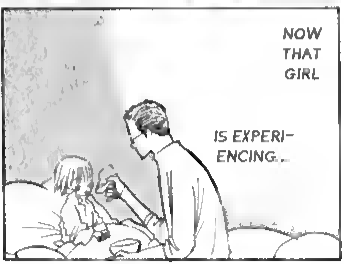

MONA LISA?
YOU WON DIDN'T YOU?
CONG-RATU-LATIONS!
OH
T'HANKS

YEAH
DID YOU HAVE FUN?
I CAME TO CHEER YOU ON AS YOUR CLASSMATE
AH
Regional match
THE FINALS ARE NEXT WEEK, RIGHT?

SO YOU'VE HEARD OF ME.
YOU'RE AN ARTIST
WHO'S QUITE WELL KNOWN AT MY SCHOOL
I'VE SEEN YOUR PORTRAIT OF MONA LISA
AH! I FORGOT
THIS IS MY BROTHER
OH!
NAKAI SONOMI-SAN!?
MONA LISA?
What?
IT'S MIKA'S NICKNAME.
YOU KNOW
THE MODEL FOR YOUR PAINTING.
LIKE-WISE.
That's cold
THIS IS KATSUYA YASUNAGA. MY CLASS-MATE
NICE TO MEET YOU.
From someone like him
Wow what a great nick-name!
BOW!

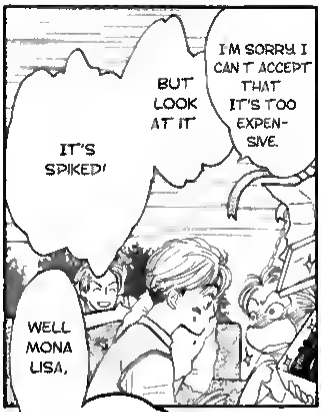
MONALISA

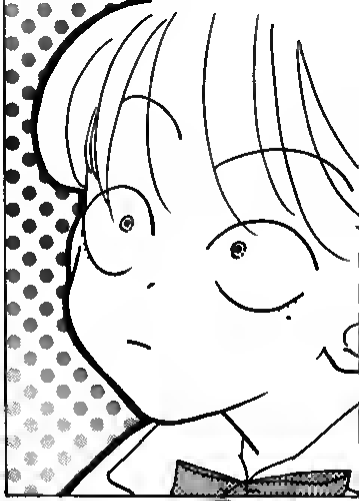
THIS THING CALLED LOVE.



THE NEXT DAY
ONII-CHAN IS A DEVIL...!!
HOW RUDE...
HOW DARE YOU ATTACK THIS DEVILISH GENIUS.
WHUPS
STUPID, STUPID, STUPID!!! IT DIDN'T WORK AT ALL, YOU KNOW!!
It was hard to put it in the tea at the canteen
SCREECH
SCREECH
HUH
I'LL LET YOU ON IN A GOOD LITTLE SECRET
WHISPER
?
UM
WELL
IF THAT'S THE CASE
THEN
NOTHING HAPPENED
HUH?

THE BOY WANTS SOCCER CLEATS.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
I DON'T NEED IT.
GIFTS GET ATTENTION
THAT IS HUMAN NATURE.
WHEN WE SHOOK HANDS,
I GOT A TASTE OF WHAT HE DESIRED
But he's kind of stupid as all he thinks about is soccer
That's mean~!


I'M SORRY I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT IT'S TOO EXPEN-SIVE.
BUT LOOK AT IT
IT'S SPIKED!
WELL MONA LISA,



GONG
WE WON'T BE TEMPTED BY MERE GIFTS, YOU KNOW.
NAKABA-YASHI!
Can I have it?

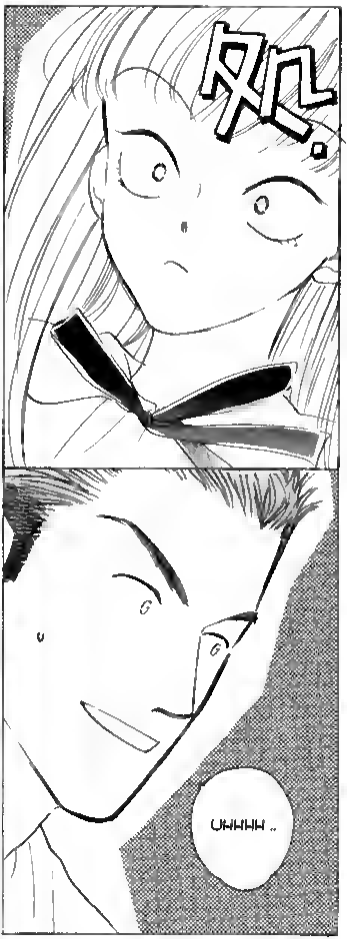
I HAD HEARD THAT "LAYING THE LOOT ON YOUR LOVE" WAS A TRIED AND TRUE TACTIC...
STUPID ONII-SAN~~!!

BE SEXY.
CAKE ON THE MAKE-UP.
BE BRILLIANT.
Snore
THEN YOU JUST NEED TO LEVEL UP YOUR TECHNIQUE!
IT WAS A TOTAL FAILURE!
Back to her old self
WELL THEN, NEXT IS "SERVING SNACKS TO THE SPORT'S SQUAD" ♡
HOW ABOUT IT?
15 Tips...

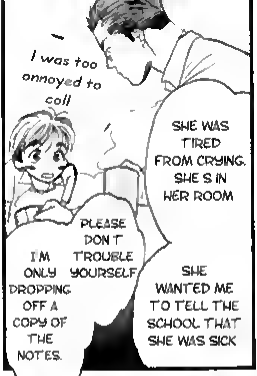
I FLUNKED COOKING.
LET ME MAKE IT THEN
HEY ONII-CHAN
....
MI..
TRY IT AGAIN!!
ISN'T THERE SOME BLACK MAGIC THAT CAN MAKE HIM FALL MADLY IN LOVE WITH ME?
HURT
HEY YOU!!

WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM?
YOU'RE DEMANDING MORE AND WITHOUT A CONTRACT, NO LESS!!
WHAT?
FINE.
IF I SIGN A CONTRACT, THEN YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, RIGHT?
FINE THEN!
WHAT'S THE PRICE!?
GIVE ME A CONTRACT! I'LL SIGN IT!
YOUR VIRGINITY!!

YOU'RE SUCH A PERVERT!!!


ダム。
UHHHH..

Heh, guys?
Sometime ago, I asked my best friend: "Isn't it better to have three years difference with a guy?"
My best friend said, "It makes it easier to take care of him."
SARU.
What an answer. It was as if she were talking about a pet. Just kidding.
My ideal is the actor Ken Ogata. Aah, so gorgeous!! Please marry me~


I was too annoyed to call
SHE WAS TIRED FROM CRYING. SHE'S IN HER ROOM
PLEASE DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF
I'M ONLY DROPPING OFF A COPY OF THE NOTES.
SHE WANTED ME TO TELL THE SCHOOL THAT SHE WAS SICK

I WONDERED WHY SHE MISSED SCHOOL
BUT IT TURNED OUT THAT YOU GUYS HAD A FIGHT RIGHT?

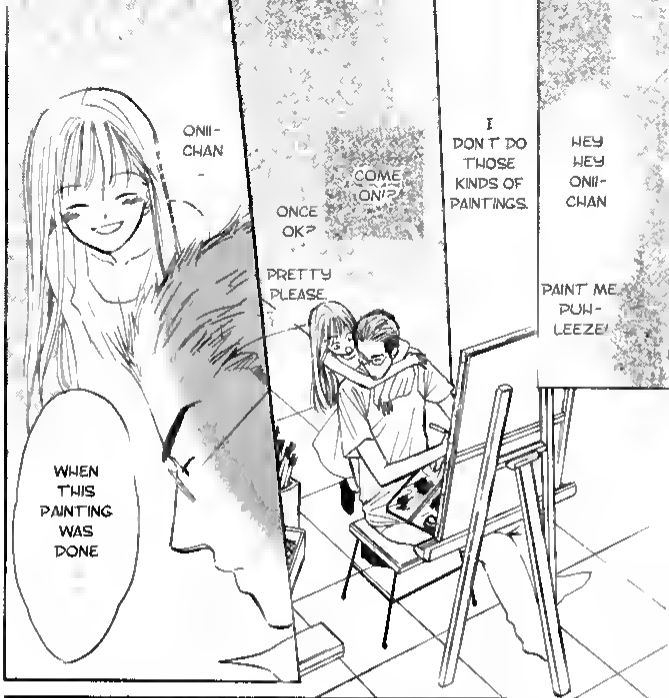
IT'S ALL RIGHT
YOU'VE JUST FINISHED YOUR TRAINING AND STILL MANAGED TO VISIT.

MONA LISA
I MEAN THE PAINTING,
IS IT HERE?
YES.

UM
YES?

IT'S HERE.
DO YOU WANT TO TAKE A LOOK?
SURE.

DO YOU LIKE IT?
OH, YES.
OF ALL MY PAINTINGS, THAT'S THE MOST COLORFUL ONE
I KNOW
THE OTHERS ARE OF DEVILS AND MONSTERS, RIGHT?
DARK AND SURREAL.
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S THE REAL ME
BUT THIS ONE FEELS SO GENTLE


ONII-CHAN
WHEN THIS PAINTING WAS DONE
ONCE OK?
COME ON!?
PRETTY PLEASE
I DON'T DO THOSE KINDS OF PAINTINGS.
HEY HEY ONII-CHAN
PAINT ME, PUH-LEEZE!

SHE BECAME SORT OF A CELEB-RITY.
EVERYONE TALKED ABOUT HER
AT THAT TIME.
EVERYONE TALKED ABOUT MONA USA
YES?

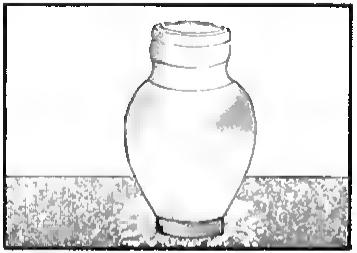
THERE WAS GOSSIP GOING AROUND
THAT SAID HER PARENTS
HAD PASSED AWAY
OH, SORRY!
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
YOU'RE NOT THE ONE WHO STARTED IT, ARE YOU?
OF COURSE NOT.
AT THAT TIME I HAD JUST MET HER
TALKING ABOUT THIS
IS KIND OF RUDE.
BUT I BELIEVE
IF SOMEONE CAN PAINT MIKA LIKE THIS, LIKE YOU CAN,
I'M SURE SHE'S IN GOOD HANDS
IS THAT SO.
.....
CLICK
THANK YOU.
WHAT A KIND BOY.

SO, THIS IS THE BOY MIKA LIKES...
MIKA IS ACTUALLY AN ORPHAN.
HER FATHER RAN OFF WITH ANOTHER WOMAN
AND HER MOTHER TOOK IT OUT ON HER.
SHE WAS ONLY WEARING A T-SHIRT
STARVED AND EMACI-ATED.
IF YOU WERE HUNGRY ALL OF THIS TIME, WHAT DID YOU DO?
HER ENTIRE BODY WAS COVERED
WITH CUTS AND BRUISES.
SLEEP UNDER THE BLANKET.
THAT WAS WHAT SHE WAS LIKE.
MIKA USED TO SCREAM WHEN EVER SHE WAS SLEEPING.
HER MOTHER ABANDONED HER WHEN SHE WAS FIVE YEARS OLD.
I TOOK HER IN FROM THE STREET.

MOOOMM!!
I'M SORRY!
I'LL BE A GOOD GIRL
I'M SORRY.
PLEASE, DON'T HURT ME
.....
YOU DON'T NEED TO FEEL SORRY FOR HER
BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO ADOPTED HER
SHE'S 300 TIMES LUCKIER
Click

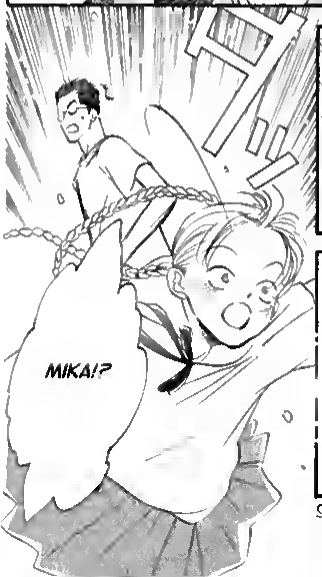
I THINK YOU'VE BEEN SPOILED
OOWW!!
SNACK
IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?
50,000 TIMES.
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT
NOW IT'S BECOME A HABIT
ONE YOU HAVE TO BREAK.
I'VE HELPED YOU SINCE THE BEGINNING
WITHOUT A CONTRACT
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SCARED ANYMORE!
SO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT AND ACT LIKE A GOOD KID ANYMORE.
THAT'S WHAT YOUR DEVIL BROTHER WOULD LIKE
Anyways
YOU ALWAYS WAIT.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T WAIT LIKE A GOOD KID,
YOU WON'T BE PUNISHED FOR IT

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Huh?
YOU'LL UNDER-STAND
CRASH
UH OH.
WHAT DO I DO...?!
IF I'M NOT MIS-TAKEN, THAT VASE COSTS A LOT.
.....



ONII-CHAN?
YES, IT'S MIKA
YES.
ACTU ALLY..

I'M SAVED
I ALMOST GOT IN TROUBLE AGAIN
I'M NOT A DE-PARTMENT STORE YOU KNOW


MIKA!?

SORRY

Sfx: SHOCK

AH HA
I HAD TO CLEAN THE CLASS AS PUNISHMENT. because I skipped school yesterday.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
It's late
MONA LISA
YASUNAGA!?
JUMP
OW
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FOOT?!
IT'S NOTHING. I JUST CRACKED MY TOENAIL.
THAT'S SERIOUS.
YOU NEED TO GO TO THE INFIRMARY—

I'M ALL RIGHT.
I DROPPED A DUMBBELL LAST NIGHT.
I WAS CARELESS.
!!
THEN THE NAIL BROKE DURING TRAINING.
BUT THAT'S GOT TO HURT.
.....
PLEASE
MONA LISA.
PLEASE DON'T TELL THE COACH

WHY?
IF YOU TELL THEM I'M INJURED,
THEN I WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY
BUT THERE WILL STILL BE OTHER MATCHES —
NO, THERE WON'T !!!
THESE THREE YEARS IN SCHOOL
ARE MY ONLY CHANCE.
SO PLEASE

IF I DON'T WIN A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WITHIN THREE YEARS,
I HAVE TO QUIT SOCCER
IT'S A PROMISE WITH MY DAD
MY DAD
WANT'S ME TO TAKE OVER HIS BUSI-NESS.
NoWonder!!
WHY!?
BEING CARELESS, BEING, INCOMPE-TENT.
BEING A FAILURE ...
I DON'T WANT TO BE SOMEONE WHO CAN'T DEAL WITH HIS OWN PROBLEMS.
It was my own careless mistake
Hmph
Pop
UGH
OH...
THE PHARMACY
BUT WITH THAT INJURY..

BAM
IF I CAN'T WORK IT OUT ON MY OWN
THEN IT'S BETTER TO GIVE UP
EASY TASTY TREATS
.....
AH!
HIS FOOT IS BLEEDING!
AAAH!!!

IS HE SO ENTHUSIASTIC...?
WHY...
Don't... do that
Fooled you
This...
IT MUST BE PAINFUL.
HE DIDN'T GO TO THE HOSPITAL, DID HE?
The remaining nail and sealant... I'll leave them with you. I know.
WHY DO I FEEL SO HAPPY, HMM...
YOU WANT TO SEE PEOPLE STRUGGLE, DON'T YOU?
TO GET WHAT YOU WANT...
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU ARE A DEVIL.
NO, NO!! IT'S A FAILURE AND TASTES LIKE ONE...
I know
YOU MADE THIS YOURSELF RIGHT?
GYAA
HERE, YOU FORGOT THIS.
.....

HAA
BECAUSE...
YASU-
NAGA
!!
THERE ARE THINGS
THAT WE CAN'T GET,
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE
TRIED SO HARD

MOM
THAT'S WHY...
I'M HUNGRY.
THAT'S FROM THE COLLISION JUST NOW.
THE SMELL OF BLOOD
HIS FOOT
I'M SORRY
IF IT REALLY CAN'T BE DONE
SORRY.
IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
AS USUAL, I WON'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT A CONTRACT
I've already told you.
IF YASUNAGA LOSES THIS MATCH, HE WILL...
NO.
Why?
ONII-CHAN,
DO SOMETHING! ANYTHING!

THE DESIRE IS ALWAYS THERE.
I'LL DO IT.
EVEN SO...
I'LL GIVE YOU ANY-THING, EVEN IF IT'S MY VIRGINI-TY!!

SO..
MIKA
WELL
WELL
too bad

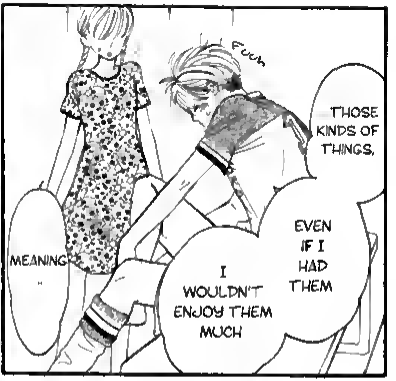
COME ON—
COME ON—
COME ON!!

FORTUNATELY,
I'M NOT ONE TO QUIT.

MONALISA
HEY,
HOW CAN YOU FIGHT SO HARD?
HIC
...
!
BECAUSE I LOVE IT
WHY DOES HE SEEM ..

UM-
...TO SHINE SO BRIGHTLY...
FOR INSTANCE,
GREAT STRENGTH
STAMINA,
INCREDIBLE TALENT,
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
YES?
WOULDN'T YOU WANT THEM?
YOU WOULD REALLY WANT THAT, RIGHT?
NOPE.
REALLY?
YES, BECAUSE

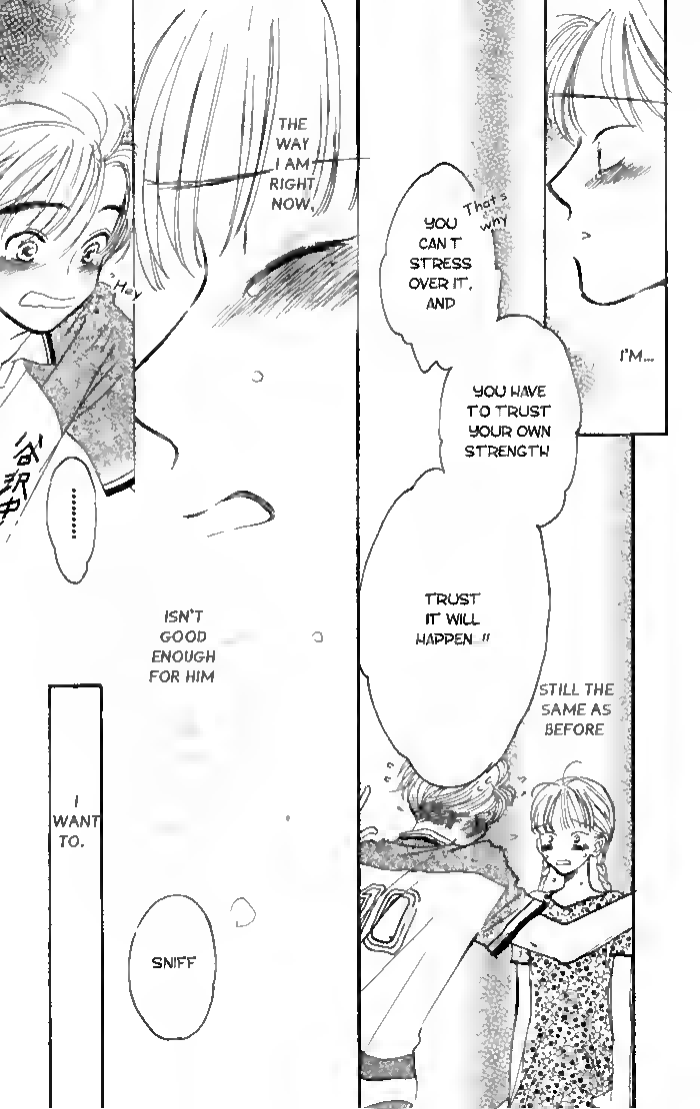
BUT,
THERE ARE THINGS THAT WE CAN'T GET, EVEN IF WE'VE WORKED SO HARD FOR THEM.

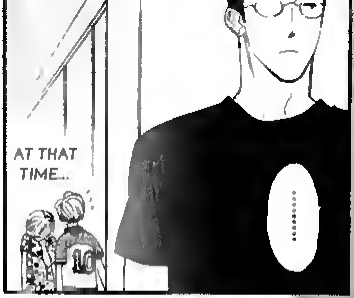

Fuuh
THOSE KINDS OF THINGS,
EVEN IF I HAD THEM
I WOULDN'T ENJOY THEM MUCH
MEANING ..

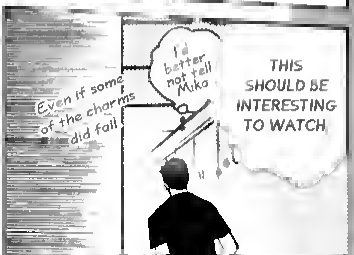
IT WOULD BE BORING, DON'T YOU THINK?

.....

EVEN IF THAT'S SO,
ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE A KID WHO DOESN'T DO ANYTHING
AND SIMPLY WAITS?
10
REALLY
AND FEEL LIKE THE NEXT STEP IS TOO HARD
THEN MY FEET
WILL REALLY STAND STILL
IF I THINK THAT WAY
WHEN I'M DOWN
OR WHEN I'M HURT
AH.


I'M...
That's why
YOU CAN'T STRESS OVER IT, AND
YOU HAVE TO TRUST YOUR OWN STRENGTH
TRUST IT WILL HAPPEN!!
STILL THE SAME AS BEFORE
THE WAY I AM RIGHT NOW,
Hey
.....
ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM
I WANT TO.
SNIFF





...BE LIKE HIM.

EVERYONE WANT'S TO SUCCEED

RIGHT?

THE FIRST LOVE
I HAVE TO BE PATIENT, MYSELF.
TO AVOID SPOILING HER.
A CONFESSION AND A BROKEN HEART
AFTER GOING THROUGH ALL THREE
WHAT'S NEXT?
UM...
YES?
WERE...
lunchbox

CREDITS Scanners: unknown & whime | Translator: cupliz CREDITS

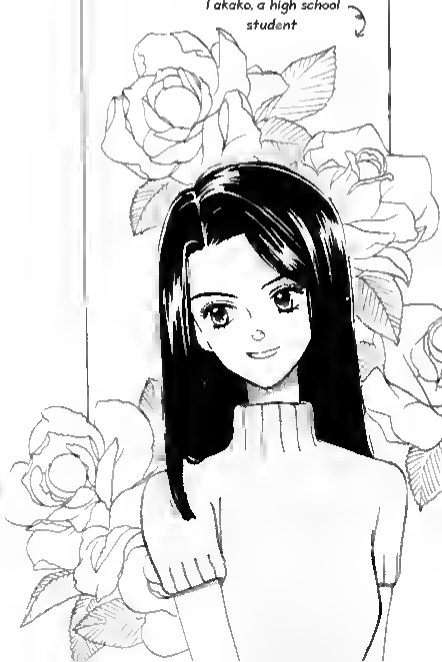
NYSCAN
Nyscan ayang ya
NYSCAN
Nyscan ayang ya
NYSCAN
Nyscan ayang ya

This work is from fans to fans. IF you like Takao Shigeru's work, support her by buying the manga

Proofreader: Margaret Man | Editor: LoloLapaka | QCers: Margaret Man & whime

ENCHANTED LIBRARY

This is my debut, you know. Kyaaaaa, I'm blushing. Speaking about this story, the male character looks kind of like the 'typical anime guy", right? Lots of people wrote in letters, 'He reminds me of ____'. After I took another look, he does look familiar _!! This story is only 16 pages long. I was frustrated since I knew that a debut story is supposed to be 30-40 pages. But since time was limited, I could only draw 16. I'm such a slacker, aren't I?!



OMAKE②

ENCHANTED LIBRARY
EVERY AFTERNOON EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK
HE'S THERE ALONE IN THE LIBRARY
SURROUNDED BY THE FRAGRANCE OF OLD BOOKS AND THE SOFT LIGHT FILTERING THROUGH THE WINDOW
TO ME, HE SEEMS...
SO MYSTERIOUS

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DON'T GET TOO COMFORTABLE, JUST BECAUSE YOUR NAME IS IN THE FAMILY REGISTER.
MOM'S NOT GOING TO ALLOW THAT.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'RE JUST A FREELOADER THAT'S LIVING UNDER OUR ROOF
GET THAT?
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE YOU RIGHT?
SORRY, I'M IN A HURRY.
SQUISH
GRAB
WHO DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO PAY FOR THAT?
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
YOU WANT TO GO TO ACTING SCHOOL IN TOKYO RIGHT?
CLICK
IT'S ALL RIGHT...
I'M USED TO IT
TAP

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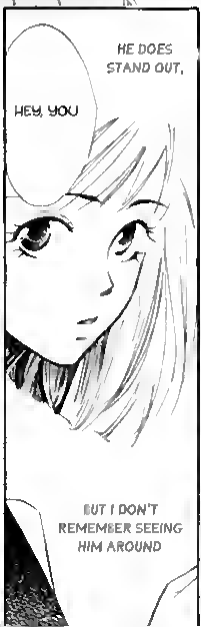

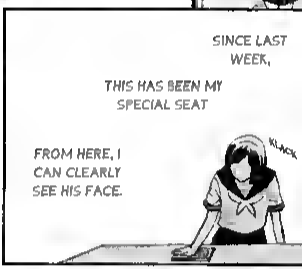

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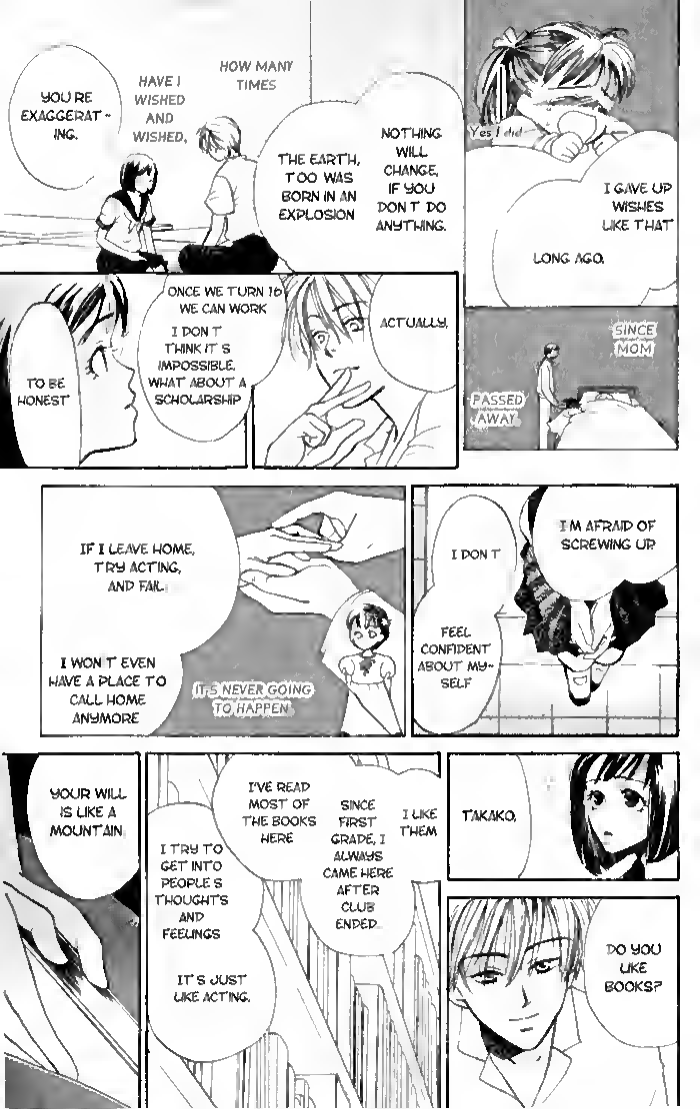
THAT'S RIGHT!
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
TAKAKO...
UH?
UH
TAKAKO.
TAKAKO. TAKAI FROM THE KANJI FOR HIGH AND LOW, RIGHT?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
CLAP
I MEAN WE'VE MET HERE EVERYDAY THIS WEEK
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT YOU WANT TO SAY, RIGHT?
I FELT LIKE..
IT WAS ALL IN MY IMAGINATION
HE SPOKE AS IF HE WERE WAITING FOR A CONFESSION OF LOVE,
BUT BECAUSE IT WAS SO QUIET AND
HIS VOICE WAS SO GENTLE,
ONCE I THOUGHT ABOUT IT...

MOM PASSED AWAY WHEN I WAS VERY SMALL.
THEN MY DAD REMARRIED AND I GOT A STEPMOTHER AND A STEPSISTER WHO'S MY AGE. THEN THREE YEARS AGO... DAD DIED.
AFTER I LOST MY DAD, I DISCOVERED ACTING. BUT NOT EVEN MY FUTURE IS FREE.
YOU KEEP TOO MUCH INSIDE.
THAT'S WHY I AM HERE.
BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BEAR IT ANY LONGER.
I KNOW THAT.
WITH SOMEONE WHO I'VE JUST MET.
SOB
THE WORDS JUST KEEP COMING OUT.
THIS MUST BE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO CONFESS TO A PRIEST.
SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACTRESS.
THAT'S WONDERFUL.
THIS IS NOT WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO TALK ABOUT...
BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO.
I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED TO BE.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I WOULD BE THRILLED TO BE THE LEADING LADY, A SUPPORTING ACTRESS,
OR EVEN THE VILLAINESS, SO LONG AS I COULD BE SOMEONE ELSE!
IT'S STRANGE. I FEEL LIKE I CAN BELIEVE YOU WHEN YOU SAY THAT.
YOU COULD BE AN ACTOR YOU KNOW.
HA HA!


YOU'RE EXAGGERAT~ING.
HAVE I WISHED AND WISHED,
HOW MANY TIMES
THE EARTH, TOO WAS BORN IN AN EXPLOSION
NOTHING WILL CHANGE, IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING.
Yes I did
I GAVE UP WISHES LIKE THAT
LONG AGO.
SINCE MOM
PASSED AWAY
TO BE HONEST
ONCE WE TURN 16 WE CAN WORK
I DON'T THINK IT'S IMPOSSIBLE. WHAT ABOUT A SCHOLARSHIP
ACTUALLY,
IF I LEAVE HOME, TRY ACTING, AND FAIL.
I WON'T EVEN HAVE A PLACE TO CALL HOME ANYMORE
IT'S NEVER GOING TO HAPPEN
I DON'T FEEL CONFIDENT ABOUT MY~SELF
I'M AFRAID OF SCREWING UP
YOUR WILL IS LIKE A MOUNTAIN.
I'VE READ MOST OF THE BOOKS HERE
SINCE FIRST GRADE, I ALWAYS CAME HERE AFTER CLUB ENDED.
I LIKE THEM
I TRY TO GET INTO PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS
IT'S JUST LIKE ACTING.
TAKAKO.
DO YOU LIKE BOOKS?

THEN, TAKAKO, PUT YOUR HAND HERE.
REALLY?
? I REALLY DON'T UNDER-STAND
FLIP
EACH BOOK IS A RESULT OF SOMEONE'S WISH TO CREATE A STORY.
EH?
THESE BOOKS EXIST BECAUSE
TAP
EACH PERSON THINKS DIFFERENTLY.
BLANK
BUT THIS BOOK IS.
SLIDE
JUST THINK OF YOURSELF AS AN ACTRESS.
FEEL FREE TO PLAY THIS ROLE HOWEVER YOU WISH
SHINE
KYAAA!!
DIVE IN
AND CHOOSE YOUR OWN FATE.
DON'T BE AFRAID!

UGH
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SLEEP? TODAY WILL BE A BUSY DAY!
THIS PLACE IS THE FEELING YOU RE EXPERIENCING.
YOU HAVE TO FIND YOUR OWN WAY.
CINDERELLA!
WHERE AM I...?
COME ON, GET UP!
YOU HAVE TO HELP THE MISTRESS AND HER DAUGHTERS PREPARE FOR THE BALL.
SHE SAID CINDERELLA
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SH-SHE S-SAID
HURRY UP!
EH...?

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OKAY THEN, CINDERELLA
TAKE CARE OF THE HOUSE.
THE MOTHER'S DEATH AND THE FATHER'S REMARRIAGE
THE MEAN STEPMOTHER AND STEPSISTERS
CINDERELLA.
IT'S A HUMILIATING ROLE
JUST THINK OF YOURSELF AS AN ACTRESS. ?
I'M GOING TO THE PARK WITH MOM TODAY.
WATCH THE HOUSE OKAY?
YES THAT'S RIGHT..
IT REALLY DOES FIT
EVER SINCE I READ THE STORY OF CINDERLLA, I HATED IT
OUR FATES ARE ALIKE, BUT...
DOESN'T IT?
GETTING THE DRESS AND THE GLASS SLIPPERS FROM THE FAIRY GOD-MOTHER,
AND THEN WINNING THE PRINCE..

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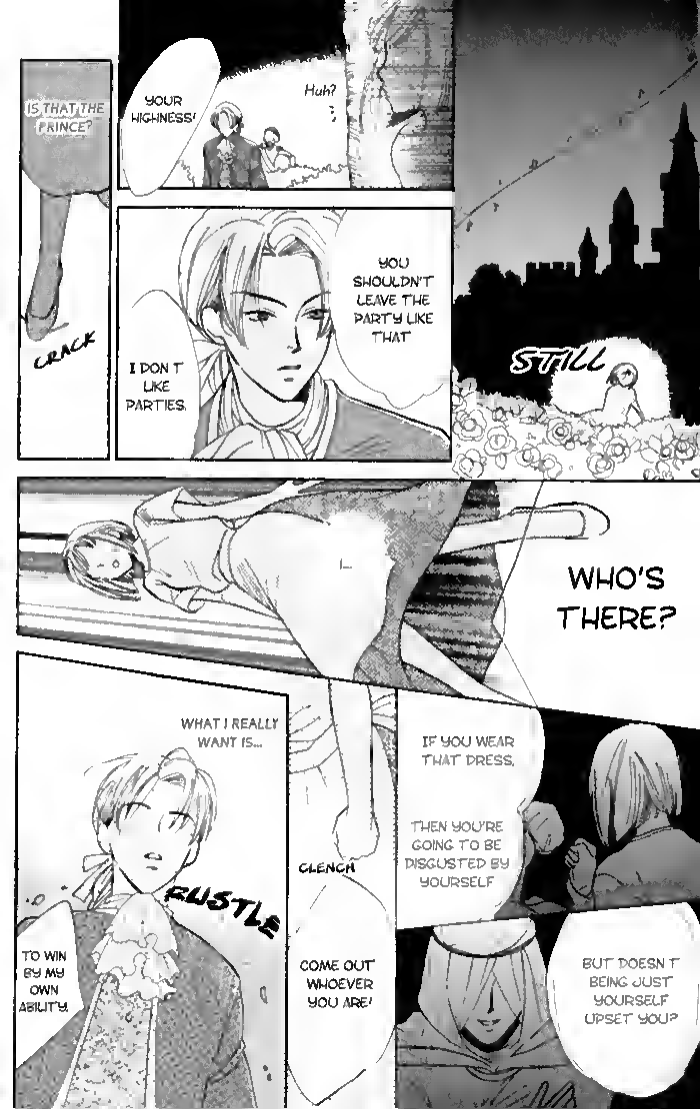
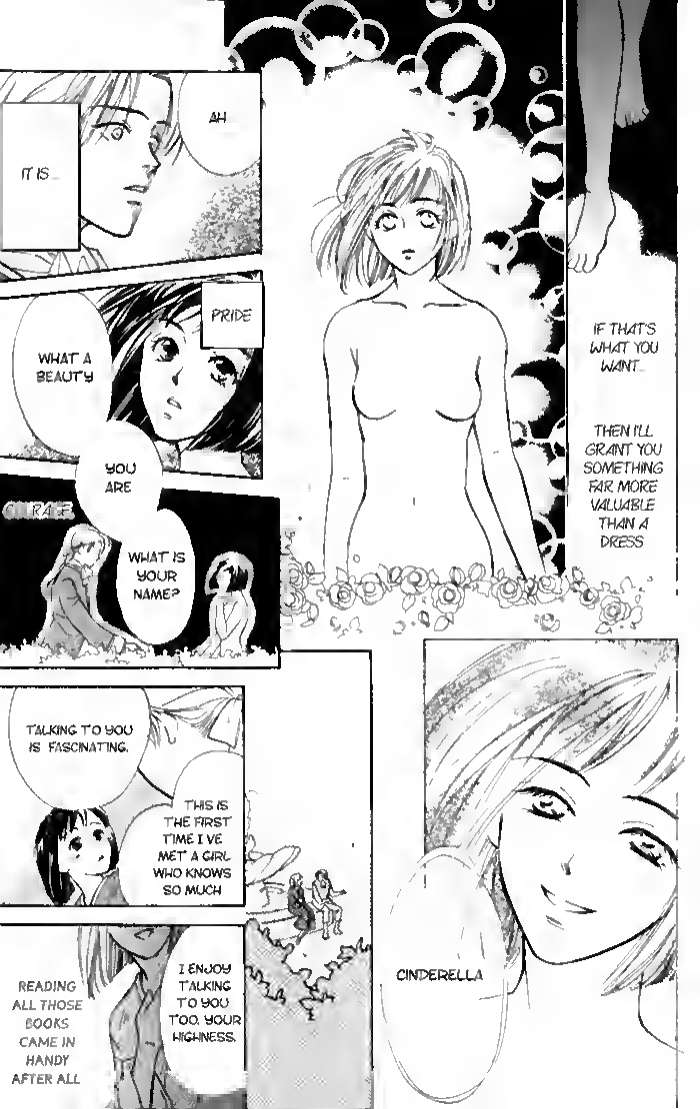
I DON'T LIKE IT
BECAUSE IT'S CHEATING.
WHO ARE YOU?
I AM A WIZARD
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T LIKE IT
SHIMA
THERE.
I CAN GIVE YOU THE DRESS, THE GLASS SLIPPERS, AND THE CARRIAGE
SHE ONLY WISHED FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN
IS THAT ANY DIFFERENT FROM YOU?
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO WAIT.
P.P. PLEASE HURRY AND COME
WHERE ARE YOU...?
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO CRY.
MOM
WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?


IS THAT THE PRINCE?
CRACK
YOUR HIGHNESS!
Huh?
I DON'T LIKE PARTIES.
YOU SHOULDN'T LEAVE THE PARTY LIKE THAT
STILL
WHO'S THERE?
I...
IF YOU WEAR THAT DRESS,
THEN YOU'RE GOING TO BE DISGUSTED BY YOURSELF
BUT DOESN'T BEING JUST YOURSELF UPSET YOU?
WHAT I REALLY WANT IS...
RUSTLE
TO WIN BY MY OWN ABILITY.
CLENCH
COME OUT WHOEVER YOU ARE!


AH
IT IS...
PRIDE
WHAT A BEAUTY
YOU ARE
GUARD
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...
THEN I'LL GRANT YOU SOMETHING FAR MORE VALUABLE THAN A DRESS
TALKING TO YOU IS FASCINATING.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE MET A GIRL WHO KNOWS SO MUCH
READING ALL THOSE BOOKS CAME IN HANDY AFTER ALL
I ENJOY TALKING TO YOU TOO, YOUR HIGHNESS.
CINDERELLA

THERE'S SO MUCH I STILL DON'T KNOW.
THERE'S STILL MANY EMPTY PAGES...
IT'S NOT OVER, YET
I'LL COME TO THIS PARK AGAIN WITH MORE INTERESTING STORIES.
PLEASE COME TO THE PALACE WITH ME.
SO...
IT'S MIDNIGHT! IF I DON'T GO HOME NOW, I'LL GET IN TROUBLE.
WAIT... CINDERELLA!
OF COURSE NOT...
CINDERELLA!
I AM THE ONE WHO WILL CONTINUE THIS STORY...
I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE NOW
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FORGET ABOUT ME, ARE YOU?
AND TAKE THE NEXT STEP...
I TOLD YOU TO GET THE GROCERIES!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
KUSUKO?
KO.
TAKAKO!!!

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NO WAY.
I JUMPED INTO A BOOK
YOU PROBABLY HAD A STUPID DREAM
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HE WAS REALLY CUTE! HE WAS RIGHT HERE.
HUH?
WHERE'S THAT BOY?
BAM
CHOOSE YOUR OWN DESTINY.
I WILL BE AN ACTRESS.
WON'T GIVE UP
I'M NOT A GIRL WHO IS JUST GOING TO SIT AND WAIT
HEY. THIS PLACE IS CLOSING.
LET'S GO ALREADY.
I

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THE LIBRARY IN THE AFTERNOON

THE FRAGRANCE OF OLD BOOKS

AND...

WHO WAS THE BOY THAT I MET THERE?

IT WILL BE A BEAUTIFUL TALE.

AND YOUR STORY WILL BE OF STRENGTH AND GROWTH

WHAT YOU WIN WILL BECOME YOUR ROOTS,

WITH YOUR STRONG WILL,

THE WIZARD IN MY STORY IS THAT BOY

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I KNOW FOR CERTAIN

Enchanted Library / END

CREDITS Scanners: unknown & whime | Translator: cupliz CREDITS

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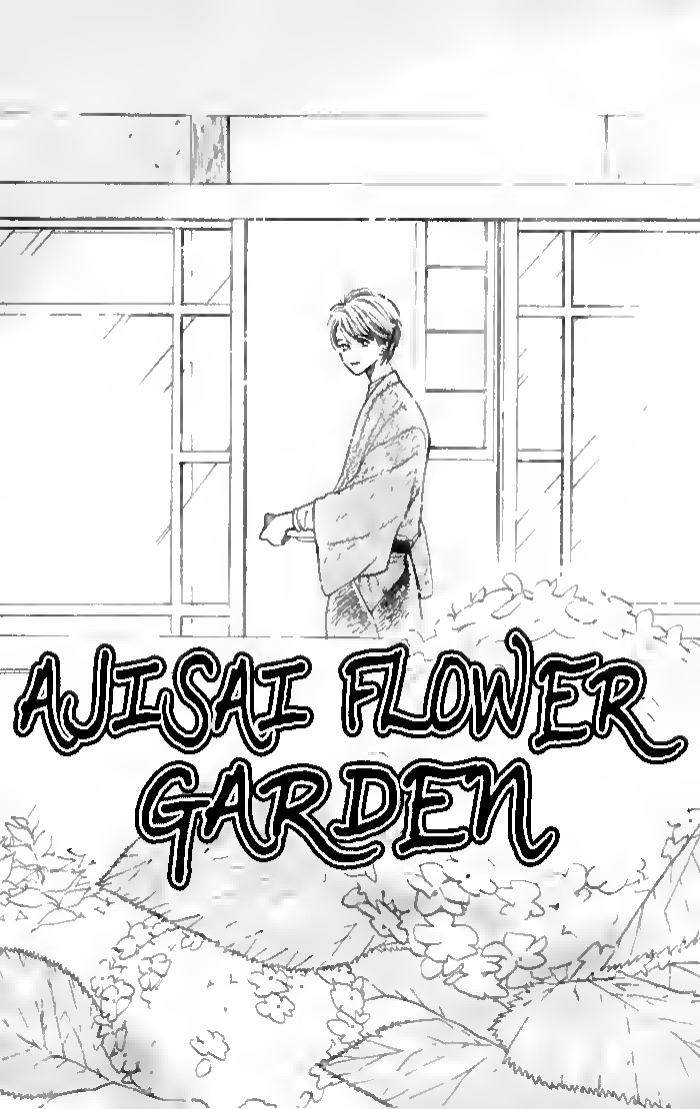
AJISAI FLOWER
GARDEN

YUU.
MISS TAMAE, YOU SKIPPED BREAKFAST AGAIN. DIDN'T YOU?
YUU.
THE FOOD IN THE KITCHEN WENT TO WASTE.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HUNGRY NOW.
AND NEED A SNACK.
I WANT THAT.
HM?
CLIMB UP THERE AND GET IT FOR ME.

ALL RIGHT
TRY NOT TO FALL
It would be funny if you did
MUNCH
BY THE WAY, AJISAI FLOWERS MAKE NICE DECORATIONS.
HOW ABOUT I PICK IT AND BRING IT INSIDE?
DON'T!
THAT'S THE AJISAI I PLANTED WITH DAD BEFORE HE DIED
IF YOU PICK IT, I'LL HATE YOU FOREVER
Sorry

IT TOOK QUITE A WHILE TO FIND
THE PRETTIEST FLOWER.
SO,
WHEN YOU CLIMB UP THE TREE, SHE FALLS ASLEEP?
YEAH
TWO YEARS AGO
YEAH
HOPEFULLY OUR YOUNG LADY WILL BE ABLE TO CLIMB THAT TREE SOMEDAY
MISS TAMAE AND HER PARENTS WERE IN A CAR ACCIDENT
SHE LOST BOTH OF HER PARENTS
HER LEGS WERE ALSO INJURED
DIDN'T THE DOCTOR SAY THAT THEY WERE HEALED?
I THINK...
IT MIGHT BE IN HER MIND
EVEN NOW, THOUGH HER LEGS WERE TREATED SHE STILL CANNOT WALK

AROUND HER, ALL OF THE SERVANTS ARE AFRAID OF HER.
WHILE THE MASTER IS QUITE FRAIL...
AH.
SOMEONE'S COMING.
Miss
WHETHER SHE WALKS AGAIN OR NOT DEPENDS ON HER WILL.
BECAUSE OF THAT...
I HOPE THERE'S SOMEONE WHO CAN SUPPORT HER AND ALWAYS BE BY HER SIDE.
WERE YOU ASLEEP?
GRANDPA
YUU.

SHE IS A SELFISH GIRL
DID YOU SLEEP WITH YOUR DOLLS AGAIN?
TOMONOSUKE AND ZARANDINE
THEY ARE MY FRIENDS, GRANDPA
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER, GRANDPA?
MISS TAMAE IS SPOILED, BUT...
YOU MUST BE LONELY.
YOU WERE SLEEPING ALL DAY.
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY.
I KNOW THAT...
BUT IT'S OKAY.
YEAH
I HAVE MY FRIENDS.
SHE'S ACTUALLY A SHY AND KINDHEARTED LITTLE GIRL

LAST YEAR THIS HOUSE WAS FULL OF CHILDREN
MY APOLOGIES, SIR
NO NEED TODAY IS CHILDREN'S DAY
THESE TOYS HAVE BEEN SET OUT FOR THE CHILDREN
SO THEY CAN PLAY AS MUCH AS THEY WANT
THAT'S WHAT GRANDFATHER SAID
IN THIS ROOM THERE WERE A LOT OF EXPENSIVE TOYS...
THE NORMALLY QUIET HOUSE
BECAME QUITE LIVELY
BESIDES ME
GRAMPS, THERE'S ONE LEFT
THIS...

HIS FINEST CREATION
WELL I MADE THAT PAPER DOLL AS A HOBBY
Sorry!
Sorry!
Grab
DIRTY DOLL
HOW RUDE
TAMAE?
Grab

FELT SO WARM.
MISS TAMAE'S HANDS...
YOU'RE NOT LONELY ANYMORE, ARE YOU?
ZARANDINE, YOU HAVE TO BE NICE TO YOUR NEW FRIEND OKAY?
YES.
I KNOW.
SHE'S ACTUALLY
YUUP
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
THIS
RIGHT
HER SELFISHNESS AND SPOILED ATTITUDE HIDES HER LONELINESS
SHE UNDERSTANDS OTHER PEOPLES LONELINESS
I THINK SHE'S A GOOD GIRL

I DON'T KNOW
HOW MISS TAMAE CAN HEAR ME,
I'LL BE FINE AFTER I DRINK SOME HOT WATER
I'll get it for you
ARE YOU SICK?
PERHAPS YOU CAUGHT IT FROM THE MASTER
I AM THAT PAPER DOLL
OH
IS THE STORY OF A MIRACLE
I'M JUST TALKING TO MYSELF
Oh
SNEEZE
YOU ARE ALL LONELY,
WHO IS A DOLL JUST LIKE ME.
EVEN THOUGH SHE CANNOT HEAR ZARANDINE,
YOU WANT TO HELP TAMAE
LIKE SHE HELPED YOU RIGHT?
BECAUSE YOU WERE LEFT BEHIND
ALWAYS LOOKING LONELY...
ND BEIN ALONE?
SPENDING ALL DAY IN HER ROOM,
HER ONLY FRIENDS WERE DOLLS...
RI-RIGHT! COMING
YUU!!
AFTER I BECAME MISS TAMAE'S DOLL, I COULD SEE IT
YUU?

WHAT CAN MAKE THIS GIRL..
LIVE HER LIFE WITH LAUGHTER?
OR WAS IT FROM MY OWN LONELINESS?
WHO'S THERE?
DO YOU LIVE HERE?
ARE YOU THE SON OF ONE OF THE MAIDS?
THE DAY WHEN SHE GREETED ME, I WAS STUNNED
A MIRACLE HAD HAPPENED TO ME. I BECAME HUMAN
OR WAS I BORN FROM HER LONELINESS..
!?
!?
?

I DIDN'T WANT TO SCARE HER...
THE REASON I LIED WAS BECAUSE
SURE.
IN EXCHANGE,
CAN YOU DO SOMETHING FOR ME?
IF ANYONE FINDS OUT I'M IN MISS' ROOM I'LL GET IN TROUBLE.
SO PLEASE KEEP IT A SECRET, OKAY?
YES.
MY NAME IS YUU
COULD SEE ME.
NO ONE ELSE BESIDE MISS TAMAE...
WHEN I BECAME HUMAN
I WAS REALLY GRATEFUL

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ZARANDINE'S DRESS WAS TORN AND
TO BRING ME NEEDLE AND THREAD
THE MAID TOLD ME
"IF YOU FINISH YOUR MEAL PROPERLY, I'LL BRING IT TO YOU
She demanded t right away anyway
OW!!
Stab
TAMA...
MOM MADE.
ZARANDINE FOR ME!

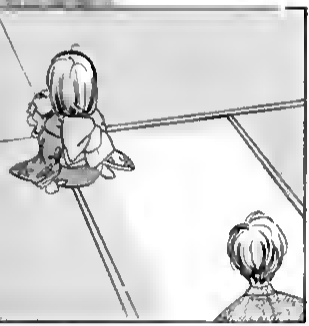
CLINK
CLINK
CLINK
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
THERE WAS SOME
LEFTOVER SOAPY WATER.

POP
THEY'RE LIKE ME
THEY CAN'T GET OUT OF THIS HOUSE.
I KEPT MAKING SOAP BUBBLES
THEN DISAPPEAR JUST LIKE THAT...
HOW MANY? TONS OF THEM...
I KEPT BLOWING.

IT GOT THROUGH!
HEY, MISS TAMAE,
KYAA
IT WON'T BE MEANINGLESS IF YOU KEEP ON TRYING.
DON'T EVER GIVE UP...
ON ANYTHING.
MISS!!
TMP
TMP

THE MAID BROUGHT NEWS FROM THE HOSPITAL. THE MISS'S GRANDFATHER WAS IN A COMA.

WITH HIS FRAIL AND OLD BODY



THE DOCTOR THOUGHT THAT HE MIGHT ONLY HOLD ON FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS.

SOB.
I WANT TO SEE THE AJISAI FLOWER
HER HANDS
FELT SO WARM.

DAD SAID THAT
AJISAI IS A STRONG FLOWER JUST LIKE HIM
THAT IT WON'T BE DEFEATED BY THE RAIN
THEN I'LL GO GET IT FOR YOU—
DON'T!!
DON'T PLUCK IT OUT
THAT'S THE AJISAI I PLANTED WITH DAD
I'LL PRAY FROM THIS ROOM
FATHER'S AJISAI
I—
CAN'T MOVE ANYWHERE
PLEASE PROTECT GRANDPA

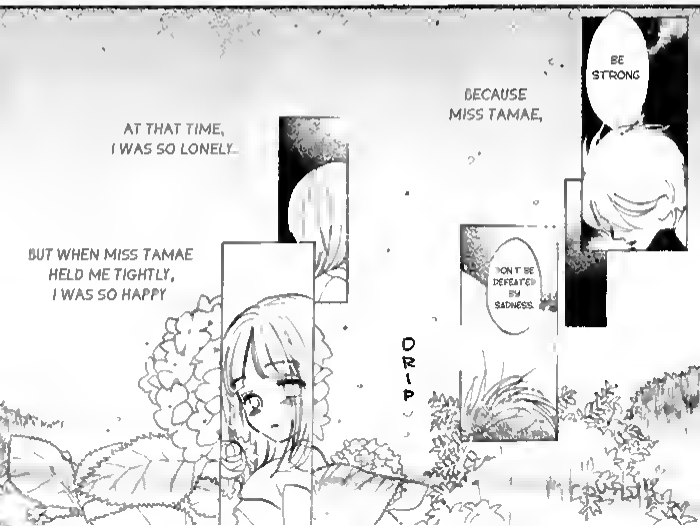
I'M SCARED, YUU.
GRANDPA IS GOING TO LEAVE ME.
JUST LIKE MOM AND DAD DID.
WON'T BE DEFEATED
BY THE RAIN.

AAS
I'M JUST A PAPER DOLL...
SO I'LL DEFINITELY BE DEFEATED
MISS TAMAE
HIC HIC
SCRAPE

LAST YEAR.
AT CHILDREN'S DAY
.....?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AT THAT TIME,
YOU REALLY WANTED THE ROLLER SKATES, DIDN'T YOU?
I WAS THERE.
MISS TAMAE.
YOU
WERE YOU THERE?
BECAUSE THE ROLLER SKATES WERE RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME,
I REALIZED THAT YOU KEPT STARING AT THEM

YOU CANNOT GET WHAT YOU WANT JUST BY WISHING FOR IT.
EVEN THOUGH...
YUU.
WHAT ABOUT YUU?
THERE'S SOMETHING I REALLY WANT.
...
ME..?
I WANTED MISS TAMAE TO BE HAPPY.
I'VE HEARD YOUR DESIRE.
SO PLEASE LISTEN TO MINE
I KNOW MY FEELINGS ARE STRONG, TOO.

SMILE,
MISS TAMAE.



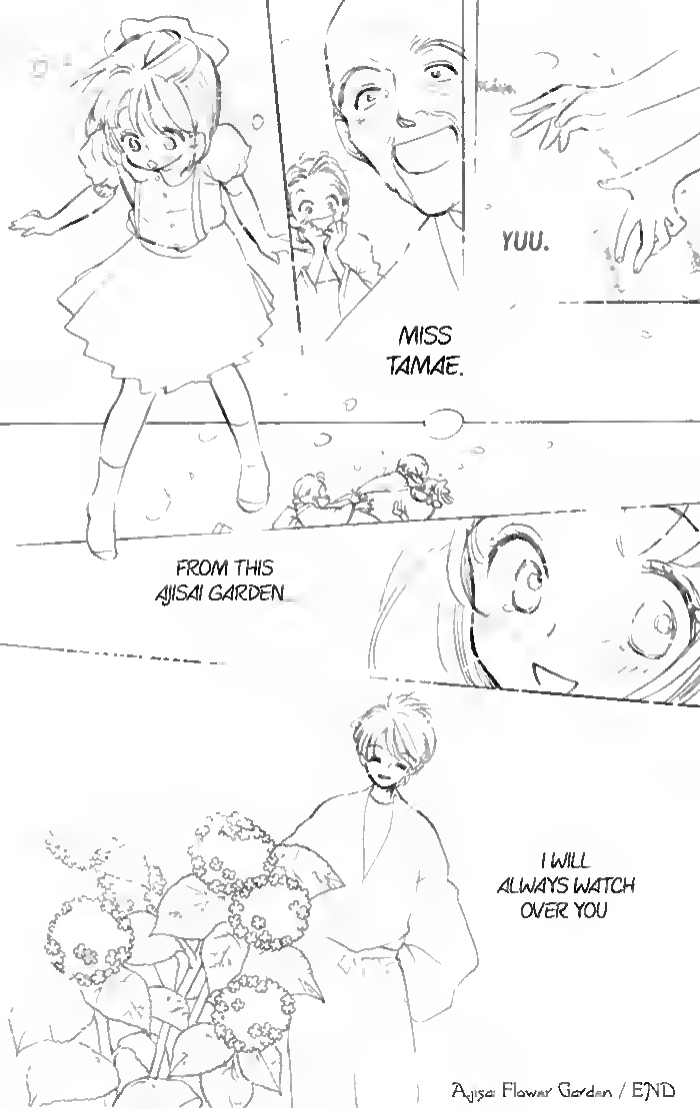
YUU!
YUU?
I...

TAMAE
I WANT TO BE...
SOMEONE WHO CAN...
GIVE YOU STRENGTH.

SOB
SOB
GRAMPS!!
YES.
I PRAYED THAT GRANDPA AND YOU WOULD RETURN
I PRAYED SO MANY TIMES.
TAMAE.
YES.
TAMAE WILL TRY HARD.
BE HAPPY
THAT'S WHY...
YES.

AS LONG AS YOU TRY HARD
YOUR FRIEND WILL RETURN
GRAMPS.
YES?
GRAMPS,
DID YOU KNOW YUU?
YES.
HE SCOLDED ME, WHEN I WAS WANDERING IN THE MIDDLE IN OF A DREAM
HE LOOKED LIKE A YOUNG STUDENT
HE SAID, "ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE TAMAE ALONE?"
MISS TAMAE.

Carrot
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
IT'S A MIRACLE.
YUU.
YES, MISS TAMAE.
YUU...


YUU.
MISS TAMAE.
FROM THIS AJISAI GARDEN
I WILL ALWAYS WATCH OVER YOU

AJISAI FLOWER GARDEN

I finished this story quite quickly (considering how slowly I usually work), because I usually take my time with my work. So when I finished these 32 pages, I was quite surprised. Supposedly, it's set during the Showa period, but this is what it looks like. That's because I wanted it retro, he, he, he... Besides, I like drawing the grandpa, so I really enjoyed it. Oh, by the way, drawing Zarandine was also fun. I like the theme about dolls. Next time I'll do more stories about it, too. By the way, does anybody know what Zarandine means?

VIEW OF A CLEAR FACE

I was caught off guard by the surprise theme of 4 short stories. Fortunately, my editor gave me tons of supports. I felt confident by the 4th story. After all, that was the last one. First, I created the four characters that were going to be in the stories: Akira and Tadashi, then Tadashi and Yamano, then Yamano, etc. (that turned out surprisingly well.) So, Yamano was the character that appeared often in the stories. But honestly speaking, I do like that character. Maybe some other time I'll make him appear in another story.

By the way, for the 4th story, I went to a bookstore to look for a book about wedding dresses. And the shop-lady (my acquaintance) came over to me and said "Congratulations." I was so surprised. She must have thought that I was getting married, huh

WELCOME TO SLOPE MANSION

Many things happened early on during the making. Especially at the end of the making, I made quite a few changes. I really wanted to write about fairies, so I really enjoyed the process. At first I wanted to write something more cheerful and colorful, like creating an interesting and curious kind of fairy—. This is the first time that a lot of the readers liked the female lead in my story. I'm so happy. Kyaaa—! Maybe it's because I usually like to make the main character a crybaby. (Ha ha ha)

Thank you for reading this until the end. If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to write to me.

Thank you to all the friends who helped with making these stories. Sorry for all the trouble, dear editor. Thank you, Mom, for the delicious food. And thank you to all of you, readers. Even though creating these were quite hard (and they were hard) because of you all I can keep on going. Thank you very much.

Well then, hope we can meet again. Takaa

SIMPLE STEPS IN EDITING

1. Grayscaling

2 Rotating

3. Cropping

4 Resizing

5 Leveling

6 Removing Text

7. Cleaning SFX

8 Text-setting

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10月5日はれのち雨
今日失恋しました。

October 5 (Clear skies, then rain)
Today my girlfriend dumped me

10月6日くもり
昨日失恋しました。

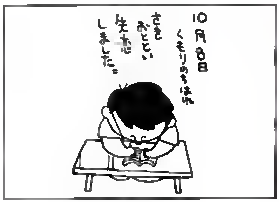
October 6 (Cloudy)
Yesterday my girlfriend dumped me

10月7日はれのちくもり
おととい失恋しました。

October 7 (Clear skies then cloudy)
Day before yesterday, my girlfriend dumped me

10月8日くもりのちはれ
さきおととい失恋しました。

October 8 (Cloudy, then clear)
Three days ago my girlfriend dumped me



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